

PENN. LINCOLNS

DRAWER 1

PENNSYLVANIA RELATIVES

71 2009 085 DS 287



Thomas Lincoln Family

Pennsylvania Relatives

Excerpts from newspapers and other
sources

From the files of the
Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

PENN. LINCOLNS

DRAWER 1

PENNSYLVANIA RELATIVES

COUNTY LINCOLN CRADLE.

**Pennsylvania District Recalls That
Family Once Lived in Its
Valleys.**

READING, Pa., Feb. 12.—Nowhere in the state was the birthday anniversary of Abraham Lincoln more generally observed than in Reading and Berks county because his ancestors of some generations before lived in this county.

Eight miles below this city is still standing the home of Mordecai Lincoln, who died over 150 years ago, and near by the homestead in which Daniel Boone, the great Kentucky pioneer, was born. About 1750 one branch of the Lincoln family, in company with the Boones and John Hanks and his family, left Berks county for the south. John Hanks was the progenitor of Nancy Hanks, the mother of President Lincoln, and the most friendly association existed among the three families for many years.

One of the most eminent citizens of Berks was an Abraham Lincoln during the revolutionary war. In view of all these reminders the observance by the public schools yesterday was supplemented today by exercises by the patriotic societies.

Continued from page 1

Reading -

2-12-09



HOME OF LINCOLN'S ANCESTOR.

Whilom Domicile of Honest Abe's
Great-Great-Grandfather.

Still standing near Exeter Station, about eight miles below Reading, is an ancient dwelling that was once the home of the great-great grandfather of Abraham Lincoln, Mordecai Lincoln. The original tract upon which a portion of the old homestead still remains comprised 300 acres of land, the woodland portion being known as "Black woods."

The ancestry of Lincoln can be traced back to colonial days. Previous to the year 1645, there came to the town of Hingham, Mass., from England eight men by name of Lincoln. Three of them were brothers, one of whom named Samuel, had a large family, which included four sons. Among the Lincolns were many prominent in public affairs. One was a member of the Boston Tea Party and served as a captain of artillery in the war of the Revolution, while a number of others served as privates. The fourth son of Samuel Lincoln, Mordecai Lincoln, became a rich "blacksmith," as iron workers were called in those days. He was the proprietor of numerous iron works, saw

mills and grist mills, and his children and his grandchildren inherited a great deal of his wealth. Two of his sons, Abraham and Mordecai, did not remain in Massachusetts, but removed to New Jersey and then to Pennsylvania. Here both prospered. Mordecai took up 300 acres along the Schuylkill River in Berks County. Some of his descendants still living in this vicinity have continued to be well-to-do people and some of them have taken prominent positions in public life.

One of the sons of the second Mordecai, whose name was John, had received from his father 300 acres of land in New Jersey, but evidently did not care to cultivate his inheritance, for about 1738 he removed to Virginia and was known by the mem-



bers of the Lincoln family as "Virginia John." This John Lincoln had five sons whom he established well. His son Jacob entered the Revolutionary army and served as lieutenant at Yorktown. Three of his other sons decided to try their fortunes in the new country that was then opening up. One went to Tennessee and two to Kentucky. His son Abraham who was the first to go to Kentucky, was already a well-to-do man when he decided to leave Virginia, for he sold his estate for some \$17,000 a portion of which he invested in land office Treasury warrants. He bought 1700 acres of land in Kentucky. Early in his life in the new country, however, while still a comparatively young man, he was slain by the Indians. The youngest son of the pioneer Abraham was Thomas Lincoln, who owned a farm at 25 years of age. The second child of this Thomas was Abraham Lincoln, who became the sixteenth President of the United States.

LINCOLN'S ANCESTORS WERE PENNSYLVANIANS

Berks County Settlers Who Later Moved
to Virginia and Kentucky—The Hanks
and Boones Their Neighbors

Publ. July 22-24
By GEORGE NOX MCCAIN

A BRAHAM LINCOLN was of Pennsylvania ancestry.

His mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln, also descended from an old Pennsylvania family, according to the claims of genealogists.

In the maze of truth and fiction concerning "The Great Emancipator," the 115th anniversary of whose birth will be celebrated today, these facts are generally lost sight of.

Kentucky has loomed forth at the pen of historians as the home of Lincoln's immediate forbears.

His remoter family, during Colonial times, were natives of Berks County, of Lancaster County rather, before a portion of it was cut off to help in the making of Berks.

Among the faded, yellowed and forgotten record in the courthouse at Reading are papers that apparently establish this fact.

Amity Township is the oldest in Berks County.

Adjacent to it are Exeter and Oley Townships, settled mainly by Quakers and Swedes.

In records pertaining to the early settlers of the townships beginning as far back as 1730 the name of Lincoln appears quite frequently.

A LIST of taxpayers for 1734 in Amity Township comprises thirty-seven names.

The first on the list is that of Mordecai Lincoln, the great-great-great-grandfather of Abraham Lincoln.

He paid quit rent on 500 acres of land, according to the record.

There has been an Abraham Lincoln of this Colonial Lincoln stock in Berks County in nearly every generation until the last quarter of a century.

Pennsylvania ancestors of President Lincoln figure largely in the records of Exeter and Oley Townships.

They are said to have come from the neighborhood of Exeter, England, and the name of their former home was perpetuated in the Berks County township.

On the road to Amityville, about eight miles from Reading, was the original home of the Pennsylvania branch of the Lincolns.

The earliest of the family are buried in the graveyard of the Friends' Meeting House nearby.

DANIEL BOONE'S birthplace was within half a mile of the Lincoln homestead.

It was Daniel Boone in after years who made possible and safe the frontiers of Kentucky for the advent of Thomas Lincoln and his family in later years.

The Boones and the Lincolns were neighbors, and in a sparsely settled community were presumably fast friends.

The first Abraham Lincoln was prominent in pre-Revolutionary and post-Revolutionary days.

He lived in Berks County all his life.

About all that is subsequently known of President Lincoln's ancestors is that they emigrated to Massachusetts, thence going to New Jersey and finally to what was

then the eastern part of Lancaster County, Pa.

HIS ancestors later moved to Rockingham County, Va., and then Kentucky, where the immortal son of that name was born.

It is said that they were not always poor. But they were pioneers and were not possessed of much property.

The first Abraham Lincoln served as a Commissioner of Berks County for a number of terms.

Berks County had been created out of Chester, Philadelphia and Lancaster Counties in 1752.

Later the first Abraham was a sub-lieutenant of the county, and raised troops and supplies for the Continental armies.

He was a member of the Legislature in 1782 and of the Constitutional Convention in 1787.

THE first Lincoln to locate in Pennsylvania was Mordecai.

He helped to lay out the earliest roads in Oley Township.

A posthumous son was born six months after his death. His mother called him Abraham, the first of the name referred to above. Mordecai left two other sons, Mordecai, Jr., and Thomas.

Abraham Lincoln, posthumous son of Mordecai, was not an ancestor of the martyred President. John, son of Mordecai, Jr., was the great-great-grandfather of President Lincoln.

John Lincoln immigrated to Virginia, where his son, Abraham, father of Thomas, who was President Lincoln's father, was born.

When Thomas Lincoln was two years old the family moved from Virginia to Hardin County, Kentucky. He married Nancy Hanks. They were the parents of the future President.

THE last visit of Abraham Lincoln to Philadelphia was after the tragedy in Ford's Theatre, Washington, April 14, 1865.

A silent, horror-stricken populace greeted the funeral cortege of the martyred leader.

The city was draped in black.

In every church sermons of eulogy of the man and caution against violence were preached.

Simon Hassler, then famous leader of the Chestnut Street Opera House orchestra, composed the requiem music for the occasion.

Then Abraham Lincoln went westward with the day, never to return again.

THERE is another family name, strange as it may seem, interwoven with the story of the Pennsylvania Lincolns.

It was the Hanks family from which Nancy Hanks, the President's mother, is said to have descended.

A Berks County genealogist writing on this subject a quarter of a century ago said that the precise name of the first Hanks to settle in Berks County was unknown.

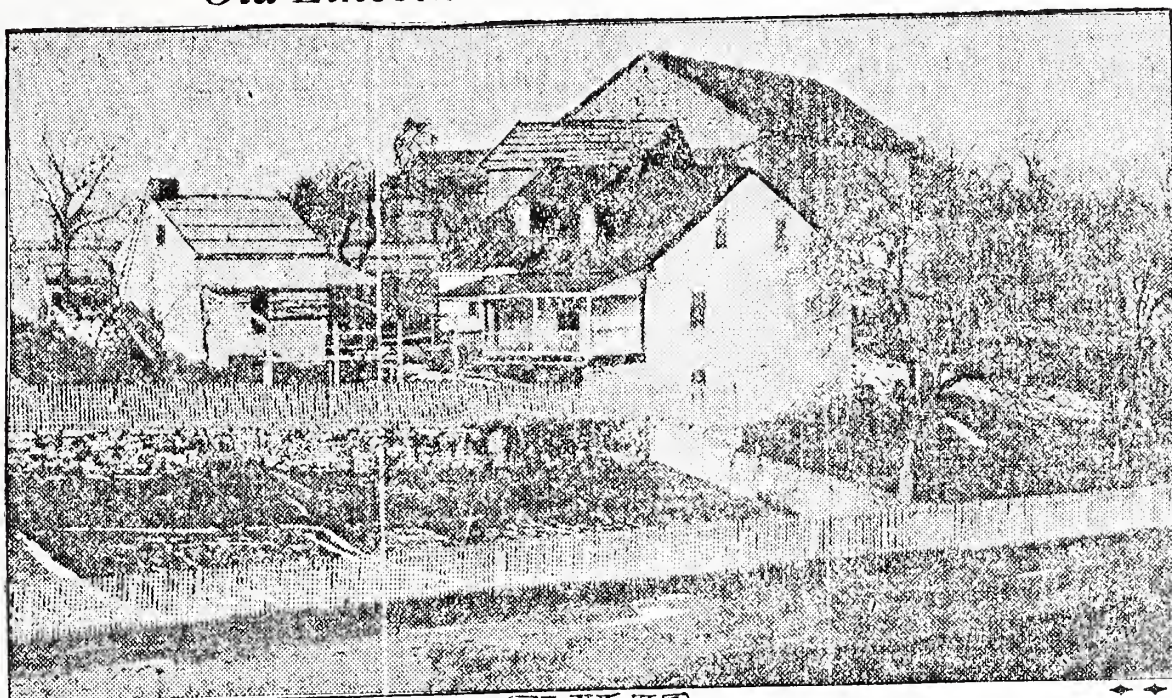
It is said to have been John.

They settled in Exeter Township, not far from the Lincolns. After half a century investigation little is known, and that of fragmentary and unsatisfactory character about Nancy Hanks, Lincoln's mother.

She is said to have been born in Virginia; other authorities claim Kentucky as her birthplace.

It is only speculation, of course, that the Hanks family, or some branch of it, might have moved to Virginia, and thence to Kentucky with the Lincolns.

Old Lincoln Home in Berks County



Farmhouse near Reading, which was "home, sweet home" to forebears of martyred President. The old structure still is standing, not so far from where Daniel Boone, famous pioneer, was born

LINCOLN FOREBEARS SETTLED IN BERKS

Emancipator's Great - Great -
Grandfather Was Slaveholder
in Pennsylvania

HELPED HANG WOMAN

Reading, Feb. 7.—Harry F. Kantner, a member of the Berks County bar, has completed for the benefit of the Berks Historical Society members the task of going through voluminous courthouse records and digging out facts, many never before made public, relating to the Berks ancestry of Abraham Lincoln.

Among many other things he has recorded the following:

In early days, when the Lincolns lived among Pennsylvania German neighbors, the name was spelled Lincorn, Lincorn, Lincon and Lincoln.

One of the pioneer Lincolns was Sheriff of Berks County and it was his painful duty to hang a woman convicted of murder. As the bill of costs filed refers to the payment of a "hangman," he probably employed another to perform this unpleasant service.

Mordecai Lincoln, of Berks, great-great-grandfather of Abraham Lincoln, was a slave-holder here.

John Lincoln, great-grandfather of Abraham Lincoln, was a tax collector in this county.

Abraham Lincoln, grandfather of the War President, was born in Berks.

Three Generations Lived in Berks

No fewer than three generations of the family, preceding their migration to the West, lived in Berks. Many members of the family still reside hereabouts.

Samuel Lincoln, a youth, emigrated from Norfolk, England, and settled at Hingham, Mass., in 1627. One of his sons, Mordecai, operated an iron works at Scituate, Mass., and was a respected citizen.

Two of the sons of this Mordecai Lincoln (Mordecai and Abraham) left their Massachusetts home to seek their fortunes, first in New Jersey and then in Pennsylvania, and one of them, Mordecai, finally came to Berks, before 1730.

One of his sons also was named Mordecai. Another son, John Lincoln of Berks, became the great-grandfather of the President. One of the sons of John Lincoln, named Abraham, born in Berks, was the grandfather and the latter's son, Thomas, the father of the President.

In 1923 there was published a virtually complete list of approximately 3000 Lincolns, from Abraham to Zeroda, in the male line and from Abigail to Welcome in the female line. From this history it appears that there have been twenty-nine persons who bore the name of Abraham Lincoln, of whom the President was the eighteenth in chronological order; that twenty bore the name of Mordecai and forty-two the name of Thomas.

Feb. 8, 1925

Justice Lodge

2000

Mordecai Lincoln, the first of the name to settle in Berks, was an iron-master in Chester County before he located here. In 1729 he acquired title by lease to a tract of 1000 acres of land situated in Philadelphia County, and later incorporated into Exeter, Berks County, and from that time until his death he resided there.

Mordecai Lincoln was 49 years of age at the time of his death. He left a widow, Mary, and, in addition to his five children by a first marriage, three other children, Mordecai, Thomas and Rebecca.

Mordecai's name as written in one deed was spelled "Lincon." He signed his will in exactly the same way. Although his name appeared upon the tax lists in Chester County in 1720 as Mordecay Lincoln, in 1722 as Mordecai Lincoln, in 1724 as Mordecay Lin Cohn and in 1725 as Mordecay Lincoln, whenever he wrote his name himself the second L was omitted. This peculiarity was the means of tracing him back to Monmouth County, New Jersey. He figured in a number of suits in the courts of Monmouth County between 1716 and 1722, in which his

He was one of six Assemblymen elected October 7, 1782, to represent Berks County, receiving the third largest vote. His brother, Mordecai Lincoln, signed the election return as one of the judges of election.

He was a member of the State Convention of 1787 and of the Constitutional Convention of 1789-1790. It is said that after the close of the Revolution he was selected to make the address to Washington at Philadelphia.

He was a very precise man, as appears by an "Account Book" kept by him. An illustration of this is shown in the following entry therein relating to his marriage:

Abraham Lincoln and Anne Boone

were married on the fifth day of the week, on the 10th day of July, A. D. 1760, when his age was 23 years 8 months and 11 days, and her age was 23 years 2 months and 26 days—he being 5 months, 15 days and 22 hours older than she.

In the same manner a complete record of all the members of his family was kept, so that the very minute of

their births and deaths was recorded in every instance.

This "Account Book" is in the possession of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, and is an exceedingly interesting document bearing on lives and times antecedent to the Revolution.

He died January 31, 1806, and was buried at the Friends' Meeting House burial ground at Exeter, Berks County.

name is spelled by turns, Mordecai Lincoln, Liucorn, Linckorn and Lincon.

Mordecai Lincoln left a comparatively small estate, as is disclosed by the inventory taken by Hugh Ellis and Squire Boone, father of Daniel Boone, Kentucky woodsman. Nearly one-fourth of his personal property was represented by two slaves.

John Lincoln, great-grandfather of President Lincoln, served the King as one of his Berks tax collectors in 1760.

He migrated to Virginia and took with him his eight children, ranging from 4 to 21 years of age. One of these was Abraham Lincoln, grandfather of the President. This Abraham Lincoln resided in Berks County during half of his lifetime. He was shot and killed by Indians in May, 1786, while working in a clearing with his sons, Mordecai, Josiah and Thomas. The latter was the father of President Lincoln.

Hannaniah Lincoln, son of Thomas Lincoln, the elder, was commissioned as a sergeant in the company of his uncle, Captain George Nagle, of Colonel William Thompson's regiment. On October 4, 1776, he was commissioned first lieutenant of Colonel William Cooke's 12th Pennsylvania Regiment. He was promoted to a captaincy May 20, 1777. He probably never returned to Berks County.

After leaving the army he lived in Augusta Township, Northumberland County, during 1778, 1779 and 1780, and from there went to Kentucky, where he joined Daniel Boone, who had migrated from Berks, his birthplace. He lived for several years in Hardin County, Ky., the county wherein President Lincoln was born, and later settled in Missouri, where he joined Boone in 1798. He had two sons, Austin and Davis. President Lincoln, in a letter to Richard Van Buskirk Lincoln, of Berks County, dated April, 1860, stated that he remembered having met these two sons of Hannaniah.

Abraham Lincoln, the posthumous son of Mordecai Lincoln, the elder, was born at the Exeter homestead on October 18, 1786. He was the most prominent man of his family.

On July 10, 1760, he married Anna Boone, a cousin of Daniel Boone. She was a Quaker and her marriage to Abraham "out of meeting" was considered a "disorderly act," for which she was disciplined by the Exeter Monthly Meeting. She acknowledged her error on August 27, 1761.

News

LINCOLN KINSMAN DIES

READING, Pa., July 25.—Richard G. Lincoln, third cousin of Abraham Lincoln, and the leader of the family of Lincolns in this section, died today. He was 82.

1927

2
Louis G. Warren
Fort Wayne, Ind.
Dear Mr. Warren:-

Phoenixville Pa Sept 10-32
Having read your letter to Phil
Hedger - "Abraham Finck's Account" and your request for
any additional information that might be supplied
I am enclosing you clippings which I sent to our
local paper last Feb. Phoenixville is at the junction of
Israel Creek and Schuylkill rivers and is an iron and
steel mfg town - operated more than 100 years by the
Phoenix Iron Co and its bridge may be found all
over the world. I will ask you to return this clipping
as it is the only one I have of my contribution to our
local paper. I have given a number of talks or
lectures on Finck's each returns birth day in
various towns and other time in Phila

Yours very truly
E. A. Barker
146 First Ave
Phoenixville Pa

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor Republican:—

In the February number of "Nickel and Cast Iron News" a magazine published in Wall Street, New York City, there is a splendid likeness of Abraham Lincoln and an article accompanying it, entitled "Iron Masters Among Lincoln's ancestors." The article in question refers to Mordecai Lincoln as carrying on the blacksmith business in Hull, Mass., and was one of the pioneer iron masters of America—but how many people of Phoenixville know how closely these ancestors in the iron business were associated with our own town!

Mordecai Lincoln, great-great-grandfather of President Lincoln and his son John Lincoln, grand-father of the president, in 1722, came from Monmouth, New Jersey to Penna. and purchased a third interest in the iron works of Samuel Nutt, of Coventry—near the junction of the French Creek and Schuylkill rivers. In 1725 Mordecai Lincoln sold this interest for 500 pounds. In 1730 he bought a tract of land of 300 acres in Exeter township, Berks County.

Three years later he built a stone mansion on this estate and which is still standing in a good state of preservation and is visited by hundreds every year.

The Historical Society of Berks County have erected a monument just in front of the house and from a flag pole in this lawn floats the American flag. Mordecai died in February, 1733 and left over 1000 acres of land and other valuable property.

This Lincoln home is about 10 miles East of Reading and only a few miles from the Wm. Penn highway. John Lincoln was also a large owner of land like his father, owning large tracts of land in Berks and Lancaster counties. In June, 1768, John Lincoln left Berks County and purchased 600 acres of land in Shenandoah Valley not so many miles from Harrisburg—he died in 1788 and was the father of Thomas Lincoln, Abraham Lincoln's father, so as some historians and biographers of President Lincoln have tried to show the lowly parentage of Lincoln, on the contrary dating back a generation, he was the product of better stock. Mordecai Lincoln was the owner of a number of slaves that worked on his large estates, true. Thomas Lincoln was a carpenter by trade, but things never seemed to come his way and finally settled in Harden County, Kentucky, in a tumbledown shack where in the early morning of February 12, 1809, was born the future president of the United States.

or of a race.

Lincoln was asked on one occasion whether he knew anything about his grand-father—"well" he said "I do not, and am not concerned as to who my grand-father was, but I am anxious to know how his grand-son is going to turn out."

E. A. BARKLEY.

WHERE LINCOLN'S ANCESTORS LIVED

Home of Mordecai Lincoln,
Great-Great Grandfather
of Famous President.

HOUSE BUILT IN 1733

Reading, Pa., Oct. 3 (AP.)—A few miles east of Reading near the Philadelphia highway lies a low-roofed, thick-walled building once inhabited by ancestors of one of

the world's most famous men.

Smoke still curls peacefully from its low squat chimney as it did nearly 200 years ago when black slaves trod its floors; cows still graze in nearby lush pastures and a dog barks a greeting from the doorway just as another used to when its owner walked up the path at the end of a day's work.

It is the home of Mordecai Lincoln, great-great grandfather of Abraham Lincoln whose ancestors lived in Berks County, near Reading for three generations. Little did they know those Negro slaves whose bare feet wore down the thresholds of the Lincoln homestead—that they worked for a man whose descendant would one day liberate their own progeny.

Today the building is owned by

John B. Hoffman, a Socialist, who lives there, engages in general farming and takes an active part in promulgating doctrines of Socialism by holding party meetings there twice a month.

Mordecai Lincoln migrated to Pennsylvania from New Jersey where he had been engaged in the iron business. He first settled in Chester County where he continued in the same line of work but in a short time moved to Berks County and built the home which still nestles in the hills some eight miles from Reading.

Originally the gable end of the building contained a stone with the inscription "M. L. 1733," indicating the probable date of its erection. During his Berks residence, the great emancipator's ancestor was a justice of the peace and directed the laying out of the road from the Tulpehocken region to Olney, once considered as one of the most famous roads of colonial times. Historians state that this road was a determining factor in the location of Reading on its present site.

One of Mordecai Lincoln's sons named John was one of the tax collectors of the county for the king of England and one of John Lincoln's sons, named Abraham, moved to Virginia with his father in 1765. Abraham's adventurous spirits took him further west where he was killed by Indians in 1786 on the borders of Kentucky and Tennessee. It was one of Abraham's sons—Thomas—who became the father of the nation's President.

An interesting fact of Lincoln history in Berks County is the variation in the spelling of the last name. Pennsylvania Dutch neighbors of the family spelled it "Lincoln, Linckorn, Lincon and Lincoln." Mordecai Lincoln's name appears both as "Lincoln" and "Lincoln."

Thomas Lincoln, a son of Mordecai Lincoln—the original settled in Pennsylvania—aspired to public office and was finally elected coroner. He was subsequently chosen sheriff and while serving in this capacity was called upon to hang a woman—Elizabeth Crowl—who had been convicted of infanticide. She was one of the only three women ever executed in Berks County.

Historians relate that many of the Lincoln's who lived in the old Berks County homestead possessed physical characteristics which were strikingly similar to the well-known features of their illustrious descendant—the same height and angularity, prominent nose and ears, overhanging eyebrows and sturdy chin.

Although the old building is still a private home it is visited annually by many tourists and ancestors.

LEHIGH CO. ADV.

JANUARY 8, 1933

Old Quaker Records Reveal Confessions of Intemperance

Manuscripts of Exeter Meeting Expected to Shed New Light on Ancestors of Lincoln and Daniel Boone

Remorseful confessions of stumblings into pitfalls dug by Demon Rum, evidence that eighteenth-century Quaker women were pioneers of feminism, and light on the careers of long-ago Lincolns and Boones who were kinsmen of both Abraham Lincoln and Daniel Boone are among the interesting things that have come to light from preliminary examination of twelve manuscript volumes of the original records of the Exeter Monthly Meeting of Berks County, recently placed in the Friends Historical Library at Swarthmore College.

Past labors of historians have revealed the name of only one of the four grandparents of the martyr President—Captain Abraham Lincoln, who in 1768, at 24, left Berks County with his parents to make his home on Linville Creek, Augusta County—now known as Rockingham County—in Virginia.

Another Abraham Lincoln, the President's great-great-uncle, in 1760 married Ann Boone, cousin of Daniel Boone, famous pioneer, while his sister, Sarah Lincoln, was wife of William Boone.

These Exeter Monthly Meeting records are so rich in entries about Lincolns and Boones that hope is cherished their study will yield new revelations about Abraham Lincoln's ancestry.

"Condemnation" Is Read

Sad revelations of the frailty of human flesh come to light in these old records. Take the case, for instance, of Joseph Gibson, so smitten with a sense of guilt that March 28, 1741, he brought with him to Exeter Monthly Meeting a "Paper of Condemnation" to be read publicly to his shocked neighbors at a First Day meeting.

Gibson set out one winter day—so the two-century-old records reveal—"to a mill in Tulpehoccon." When he arrived he found that his corn was not yet ground and that he would be obliged to stay all night.

It was "so cold on the way home next day," says the record, that Gibson "called at a Dutch Man's house to warm myself and my Lad at the Stove and the man sceing me very cold went and brought me some Bread and a Dram and was urgent for me to eat; but notwithstanding I had not eaten anything from the morning before, I could not eat then. Then he persuaded me to take two or three Drams, and that was the most.

"But, however, it proved too much, which I am very sorry for;

and gives this as a Testimony against myself; and hope for the time to come with divine assistance to be more careful."

Admits "Giving Way"

Another self-condemnation formally presented by a repentant sinner confesses being "drunk with French brandy at Reading—I condemn my error with hearty sorrow."

In another confession the transgressor admits giving way to the "Temptation of an unwearied adversary." However, he left curiosity unsatisfied—he made no explanation of just what was the temptation to which he yielded.

Some of the sins charged in these records against female sinners were of the most shameful blackness—one young woman, for instance, is castigated in the records for her devotion to "vain music and airiness."

And another is reprovved for "dancing and keeping of wild company"—but is not accused of being herself a wild woman.

One heinous sinner is recorded in these records as having been reprovved for "cursing going down Schuylkill in a canoe."

Reprovved for "Backbiting"

Another wrongdoer was reprovved for "backbiting" and another for "heats and passions and doubtful disputations." Still another's offense was that he had worn "a sword as defense from Indians." And another was reprovved on the ground that he "hath taken the liberty to go to a shooting match."

Perhaps it was one of President Lincoln's kinsmen among the Boones whose transgression is rendered unforgettable in the following entry for August 29, 1754:

"It being presented to this meeting that Joseph Boone has of late been too rash in expressing himself passionately, using unsavory words to some reapers in his son's field last harvest; this meeting appoints James Boone to speak with him."

J. Russell Hayes, librarian of the Friends Historical Library, regards these twelve manuscript volumes as a very valuable addition to the great collection of such original records there. Already the library possesses the original records of eighty Quaker meetings of Eastern Pennsylvania, Delaware and parts of Maryland and New Jersey.

Since 1902 these Exeter Monthly Meeting records had lain in the vaults of the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, at 15th and Cherry streets. Their deposit permanently at Swarthmore renders them now available for historical research.

SOCIALISTS MEET IN LINCOLN HOUSE

Discuss Economics in Home of
President's Ancestor, Mordecai,
Near Reading

ITS 200TH ANNIVERSARY

(Illustrated on Picture Page)

Reading, Feb. 11.—Two hundred years ago Mordecai Lincoln, great-great-grandfather of Abraham Lincoln, built a farmhouse in Exeter township, about eight miles from here.

Today the old homestead still stands, a historic reminder that before the Lincoln family emigrated to Virginia and later to Kentucky, they were residents of Berks county.

The house is now owned by John Hoffman, who lives there with his family. One night each week, members of the Socialist party in Exeter township gather in the former Lincoln homestead to discuss economics where 40 years before the Revolution, Mordecai Lincoln and his neighbors discussed the affairs and problems of the youthful colonies.

The Lincoln family first settled in Berks county in 1726. In 1733, Mordecai built the stone house which stands close by the banks of the Schuylkill today, having withstood the winters of two centuries.

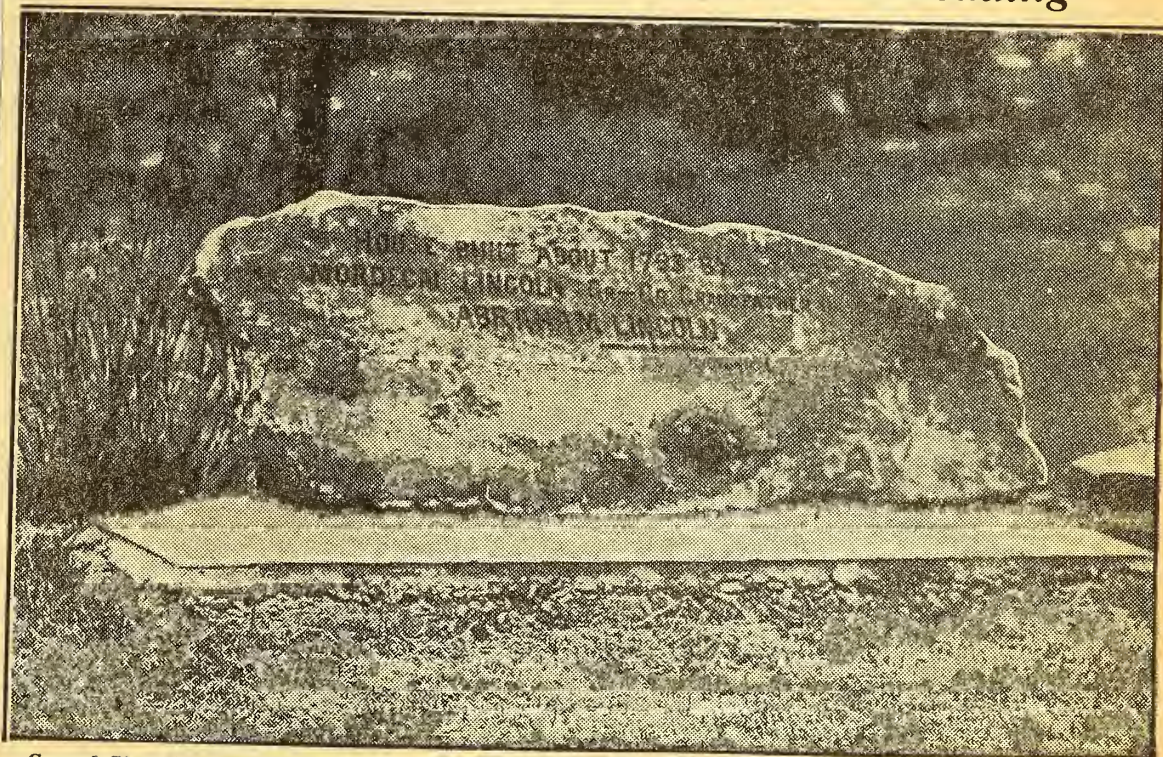
Abraham, a son of Mordecai, was prominent in Berks county affairs during the American Revolution. Another son, John, settled in Virginia. John's son, Abraham, was the grandfather of President Lincoln. Many Lincolns are still living in Berks county.

The old farm has been cut down until now only 55 acres remain of the original Lincoln grant. The Lincolns of that time were Quakers, and many of their descendants are buried in the graveyard of the old Quaker Meeting near Birdsboro, together with those of Daniel Boone, who was born only a few miles away.

Not a great distance from the ancestral home of the Lincolns is a section of Birdsboro where live some 40 colored families, many of whose parents were freed by the Emancipation Proclamation of President Lincoln.

THE EVENING BULLETIN—PHILADELPHIA, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1934

Lincoln and the Stone Marking His Ancestors' Home near Reading



Carved Stone Marker alongside of the road in front of the Mordecai Lincoln House, near Reading, home of the great-great grandfather of President Lincoln. The marker was erected by the Historical Society of Berks county.

Men and Things

Lincoln's Ancestral Line Runs Back Through Prosperous Land-Owner, Ironmaster and "Gentleman" of Berks County, Over the Span of Four Generations

LINCOLN'S ancestral line goes back to 1288; in America it commences with Samuel Lincoln, from Norfolk, England, who came to Salem and Hingham, Massachusetts, in 1637. His son operated a bloomery forge at Bound Brook near Hingham in 1703 in company with a brother Abraham. In the next generation, a second Mordecai Lincoln followed in his father's vocation, but true to the instinct of the Lincoln's to wander, left the Bay Colony and trekked to Monmouth county, New Jersey, where he was temporarily settled as a blacksmith by the year 1710. Here he married Hannah, a daughter of Richard Salter, a Justice and Judge of the county, a marriage that brought him some valuable estates and a family law-suit. Mordecai's fortunes were growing, but he was not satisfied. In 1726 the restless spirit led Mordecai to take his family into Pennsylvania and he made the acquaintance of wealthy William Branson who was to become his partner. Here he settled on an extensive tract in the Oley Valley where his holdings embraced land in Chester, Lancaster and Berks counties. His name is associated in the records of the Reading, Coventry, and the ancient Poole properties.

Mordecai Lincoln's name is well-known in the region today. His quaint Pennsylvania stone house is still standing near Amity, Berks county, not far from the Ridge Road between Philadelphia and Reading. He was variously known as a "blacksmith," and "ironmaster," until at last he was termed "Gentleman." Several newly discovered records tell more. He distilled his own spirituous liquors. He kept good horses to ride over his land and bred them for his own use. There were also a herd of "horned cattle," and a flock of sheep to graze in his fields. In his barnyards he had "some swine." Besides his skill as a metal worker, Mordecai Lincoln was an expert carpenter. He was fond of reading. Another diversion was hunting. Partridges, pigeons, and other game abounded. He was an excellent shot and he took pride in the possession of fine guns. His great personal friend in the Oley Valley was "Squire" George Boone, the grandfather of Daniel Boone.

At the time of his death in June, 1736, it was reported that Mordecai owned a "Negro Will" at £20, and the remaining term of "Negro John for Seven years" that in those days was worth £10 to any of the landed gentlemen.

He was able to bequeath his children and his second wife, Mary, considerable property both at Amity and at "Matjaponix," Monmouth county. To his son, John, thought to be the eldest, he willed "a Certain piece of Land Lying in the Jerseys, Containing three hundred acres." But John neither cared to live there nor to learn his father's trade. He was a weaver and somewhat of a wanderer. He lived at Caernarvon, Uniontown, and other places in the interior of Pennsylvania until 1768 when he took his family into the western part of Virginia.

In the Virginia Militia, 1776, there was a Captain Abraham Lincoln,

grandson of Mordecai and son of John. He in turn was the grandfather of the Martyred President who was named in honor of this American patriot. In 1782 or thereabouts, Capt. Abraham Lincoln and a brother John removed to Beargrass Fort, near the present Louisville, Kentucky. The story is told that about the spring of 1784 Capt. Lincoln was sowing grass seed near the Fort when an Indian crept within range and shot him dead. A thoroughly frightened six-year-old son, Thomas, was in the field with his father. As he darted back to safety, the Indian caught the child in his arms and would have carried him away had not an older brother, Mordecai, aimed a fatal shot at the Indian's back.

Thomas Lincoln grew to manhood. It is generally agreed that he was a shiftless person. He tried both carpentry and farming, but showed no particular skill, and historians point to the fact that his son Abraham sent him various sums of money until his death. Biographers of the President say that Thomas Lincoln had something of the vagabond in his blood, that he was something of a dreamer, and was always at heart a rolling stone. Born in Rockingham county, Virginia, and taken to Kentucky as a boy, Thomas appears shifting from farm to farm in the Blue Grass State. In 1806 he had married at Beechland, Washington county, Nancy Hanks, whose pedigree may never be established; in 1816 the family (Abraham was eight years old) migrated to Indiana to settle on Government land; in March, 1830, they moved on to Illinois, and the rail-splitter, a lanky youth of 21, did his share as an ox-driver. After first settling in Macon county, the father roamed a little farther to Goosenest Prairie in Coles county, where he died January 17, 1851.

"God bless my mother; all that I am, or ever hope to be, I owe to her," said her son Abe to his law partner and early biographer, Herndon. This noble sentiment can only partly be true. Lincoln must have inherited some of the personality, character and nature from his other parent and from his father's people. The father and son did have some traits in common beyond physical similarity, such as their coarse black hair, their deep-set gray eyes and great strength. Lincoln certainly inherited his ability, and his enjoyment, in the telling of a good story from his father. They were both fond of jokes. Neither was inclined to constant hard labor, but each was capable of performing it when he chose. Thomas was naturally indolent and lacking in ambition. Neither cared for comfort, especially if it depended upon any great exertion. Lincoln never was fastidious about the cleanliness of his sheets nor the quality of his food. Another heritage was that restless spirit which possessed all the Lincolns.

Lincoln believed that a cloud hung over the ancestry of his mother; of his father's family he knew nothing beyond the name of the other Abraham Lincoln who was murdered when Thomas was but a child. Of his fine heritage in Pennsylvania and back to the coming of the Lincolns to America in 1637, he was unfortunately ignorant.

Although President Lincoln made four visits to Philadelphia, he seems never to have been told of the mark that Mordecai Lincoln had made; he never journeyed to the nearby home of his ancestors.

Marian Sadtler Hornor.

BERKS' PIONEER DEAD REST IN 2 TIERS OF GRAVES

Reading, Pa., April 15—¹⁹¹⁶(AP)—The pioneer dead of Berks County, kin of Daniel Boone and Abraham Lincoln among them, rest in two tiers of graves in the small, walled cemetery of the Society of Friends in the Monocacy Valley, near Stonersville.

More than 100 years ago, in 1817, the cemetery became entirely filled with unmarked graves. NO additional land could be purchased from neighboring property owners but the surviving members of the Quaker faith desired that they, too, should be buried there.

A layer of earth four feet deep was placed over the old burial grounds and a second tier of graves begun. A large portion of the rows in this tier were filled.

The list of those buried in the unmarked cemetery never was completed but relatives of Daniel Boone and Abraham Lincoln lie there.

Boone, a Quaker in his youth, was born on his father's farm in what is now Exeter Township but left Berks County in 1750 when his family moved to North Carolina.

Mordecai Lincoln, who died in 1822, was said to be a relative of Abraham Lincoln. Several other members of the Lincoln family who died after 1822 also rest in the plot.

The first Friends came to Berks County in 1718 and settled in the Oley and Monocacy valleys. Their first services were held in the home of George Boone, Sr., but in 1725 a small log meeting house was built on the edge of a tract owned by Swedish settlers and called Amity. This was outgrown and a larger house was built near the cemetery, and still a larger one in 1759.

The last building, a plain stone structure, was used continuously for 175 years and today attracts hundreds of visitors.

—o—
Stonersville Pa. 1817

Lincoln's Great-Grandsire Believed a Pennsylvanian

In Rosenbach Letter, President Repeated Tradition
About Ancestorship—Collection on Display
for Week.

Perhaps the most remarkable collection of Lincolniana in the United States will go on exhibit in New York tomorrow.

Commemorating the 124th anniversary of Lincoln's birth, it will be shown for a week at the galleries of the Rosenbach Co., 15 East 51st st. The collection was formed by Dr. A. S. W. Rosenbach, of Philadelphia, over a period of 30 years. It contains more than 300 letters and manuscripts, representing every phase of Lincoln's career.

While thousands of Lincoln letters are known, only a few of his original speeches are in existence. In this collection are such documents as the autograph manuscript of "A House Divided Against Itself Cannot Stand,"—the famous address delivered at Springfield, Ill., on June 15, 1858, at the close of the Republican State Convention, by which he had been nominated as their candidate for U. S. Senator.

Here, too, may be seen the original manuscript of his famous speech on slavery, delivered in Cincinnati, September 17, 1859, in which Lincoln declares slavery wasteful and unjust. This is one of the greatest presentations of Lincoln's opinions ever expressed against Stephen Douglas. There also is Lincoln's own copy of his Debates with Douglas, with three Lincoln letters, in one of which he states the debates should be published for the use of posterity.

In sharp contrast is the original memorandum of "Lincoln's Own Plan of a Military Campaign against the Armies of the Confederacy."

There also is the letter he wrote to General Grant three days before Lee's surrender. This is singularly interesting, as it throws very clear light on the relations between Lincoln and Grant.

One of the noblest documents in American history, written entirely in Lincoln's hand, is his first manuscript draft of the Emancipation Proclamation.

Among the many letters shown, is

the famous correspondence in which Lincoln gives all the information he possesses concerning his genealogy. The following is an interesting extract:

"I was born February 12, 1809, in Hardin county, Ky. My father's name is Thomas; my grandfather's was Abraham—the same as my own. My grandfather went from Rockingham county, in Virginia, to Kentucky, about the year 1782, and, two years afterwards, was killed by the Indians. We have a vague tradition, that my great-grandfather went from Pennsylvania to Virginia, and that he was a Quaker. Further back than this, I have never heard anything. It may do no harm to say that Abraham and Mordecai are common names in our family; while the name Levi, so common among the Lincolns of New England, I have not known in any instance among us."

9

Mt. Pleasant, Del.
Aug. 31 - 1883

Dear Sir:

I thank you for the
literature received this a.m.
If you have any literature
on the descendants of
Isaac Lincoln, please
send same to me. Am
trying to trace my
Grandmother, Sarah
Lincoln Morris who was a
granddaughter of Isaac
Lincoln. Should be
glad to be placed
on your mailing list.

Sincerely

Mrs. Murrel Boyden

THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Mr. Louis A. Warren
Lincoln National Insurance Co.
Fort Wayne
Indiana

September 6, 1933

Mrs. Murrel Boyden
Mt. Pulaski, Ill.

My dear Mrs. Boyden:

Enclosed you will please find a list of your ancestors back as far as the first Samuel Lincoln, who came to America in 1637.

If you have access to Waldo Lincoln's History of the Lincoln Family you will find a complete story of all the Lincoln groups from which you are descended.

Very sincerely yours,

LAW:EB
Enc. 1

Director
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

Mr. Pulaski, Illinois
Sept 6th 1933

Mr. Louis A. Warren
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Sir -:

Please accept my gratitude
for the information you have sent me
regarding my "Lincoln Ancestors."

My Mother "Susan Minerva Morris Upf"
or "Mrs. Lewis Upf" now in her
76th year is the only living child
of Sarah Lincoln Morris (my grandmother)
She is in position to give you any
correct information from Sarah
Lincoln Morris down to the present
time, or you, or any one you may
know desire same.

I would be deeply grateful
if the Morris Children and their
descendants could be placed
in the Lincoln history.

Most Sincerely

Mrs. Murrel Boyden

P.S. My Mothers address
(Mrs. Lewis Yff)
Mt. Pulaski
Illinois

September 12, 1933

Mrs. Murrel Boyden
Mt. Pulaski, Illinois

Dear Madam:

I think it would be a very valuable contribution indeed if some member of the Sarah Lincoln Morris family could give a complete list of the descendants showing the relationship one to the other.

We would like very much to have this list on file here so that if the history of the Lincoln family is ever brought up to date, information about your branch will be available.

I take pleasure in sending under separate cover the brochure which I prepared on one other member of the Lincoln family somewhat more closely related to you and the grandfather of the present
Hananiah was the brother of Thomas and also the brother of Mishal. A sister Sarah married Joshua Davis.

Very sincerely yours,

LAW:LH

Director
Lincoln Historical Research Foundation

September 26, 1934

Mrs. L. B. Jobisch
5434 University Ave.
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Madam:

Thank you very much for the information
you have found about the Lincoln family and we are
glad to have advice of any source book that will throw
further light on the Pennsylvania Lincolns.

Very sincerely yours,

LAW:EB

Director
Lincoln National Life Foundation



Dr. Louis Warren

Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Dear Sir:

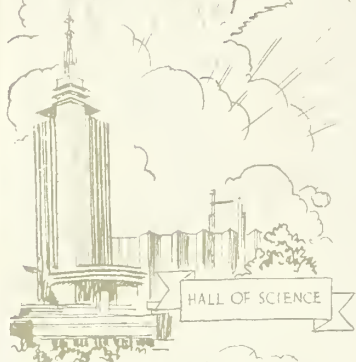
Visited Newberry Library found a book on Lincoln ancestors in + near Union Co. Pa. As that's where most of our nearest ancestors came from found them all.

Thought you might be interested in knowing it gave Michael Lincoln - son of Thomas Lincoln 1727-1775 + Elizabeth Davis 1729. Michael born Berks Co. Pa. 1753 died Limestone Township Union Co. Pa. 1840. Served in Revolutionary War - on Sullivan Expd. - at Freeland when Capt. Brady was killed + on frontiers Northumberland Co. Whitten he removed at outset of struggle - at close of war took tract of land in Buffalo Valley - Married 1781 - Rachel Thompson - Berks Co. Pa. Book was written by a Dr. records of Doctors.

Thanking you for your nice letter and trouble I caused you -

I am, Sincerely

Virginia Mann Johnson
(Mrs L. B.)



Since They Moved Into the Old Homestead---

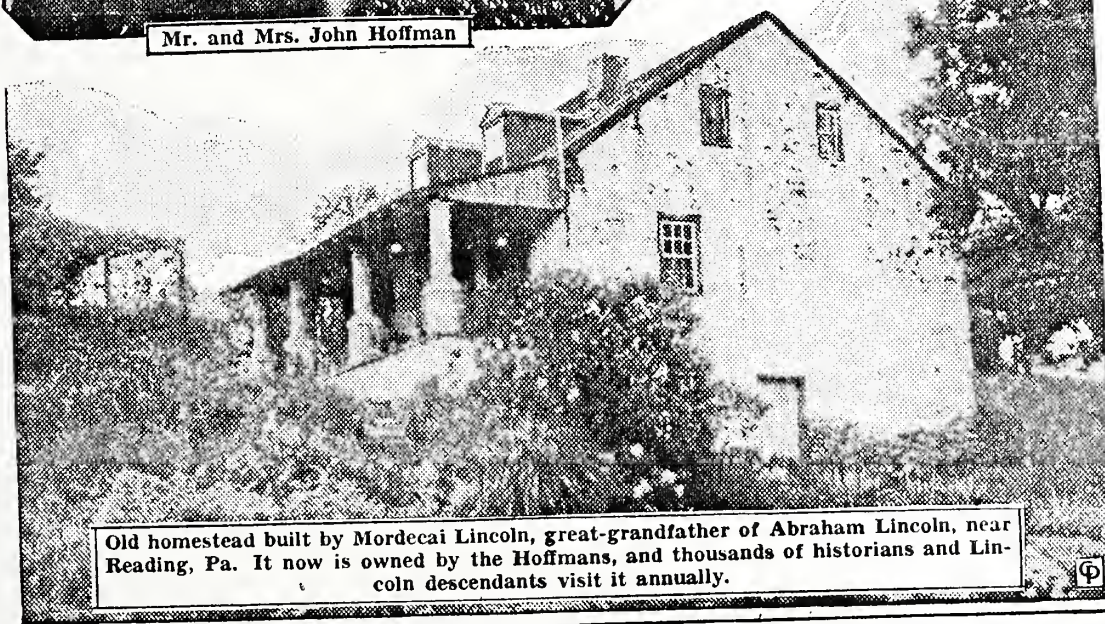
Lincoln's Birthday Means a House Full of Visitors



Mr. and Mrs. John Hoffman



Abraham Lincoln



Old homestead built by Mordecai Lincoln, great-grandfather of Abraham Lincoln, near Reading, Pa. It now is owned by the Hoffmans, and thousands of historians and Lincoln descendants visit it annually.

READING — Soon Lincoln's birthday will be rolling around again and Mr. and Mrs. John Hoffman will have to be "mine hosts" to a house full of visitors.

They won't exactly have to be —but they will be—even as they have for the past 17 years. In 1921 the Hoffmans moved into the old Lincoln homestead in Exeter township, Berks county, some five miles from Reading and, since then, they have had, roughly, between 40,000 and 50,000 visitors.

Old Mordecai Lincoln, the great-

granddaddy of Honest Abe Lincoln, never would recognize the homestead he built. If he could return to life, he'd probably be interested in the new concrete porch with its carved pillars but the electric washing machine which stands in the "slave house" would no doubt baffle him.

Built in 1832

Mordecai, the history books say, drifted into Berks county just about the time George Washington was considering his ability to chop down cherry trees. Mordecai was

an ironmonger — and a good one, they say. In 1732 he obtained from Thomas Millard, of Coventry, Pa., 1,000 acres in what now is Exeter township. On this land he built his house and next to the house he built a small shed with iron bars.

Today's historians say it was a slave house. In fact, they insist that old Mordecai kept a couple of slaves. But Lincoln descendants are inclined to frown upon this a malicious bit of gossip. Nevertheless, the shed still stand-

its iron bars, its accumulation of junk and its washing machine.

Mrs. Hoffman, a motherly woman with graying hair, shrewd business ability and a keen sense of humor, confessed that she "despised" the Lincoln homestead when she and Mr. Hoffman moved into the place.

"It was terrible at first," she says. "Visitors were popping in here day in and day out. It used to make her nervous when they'd come in here, poke around things and ask to be shown through the house. But not any more; I rather enjoy it now."

Ten Visitors Daily

An average of 10 persons a day visit the old Lincoln homestead, Mrs. Hoffman adds. There have been days when as many as 400 people, members of various historical organizations and school groups, have swarmed onto the Lincoln estate.

Hoffman is a blacksmith, employed by the city of Reading. They had no sentimental reason for settling in the home, Mrs. Hoff explains. It just so happened that they were looking for a place to live 16 years ago and the old homestead was for sale.

Lincoln's Ancestors Pennsylvanian

*His Rugged Individualism
Inherited from Pioneers*

A BRAHAM LINCOLN was not a rugged individualist by chance.

It is more than likely some of the fighting spirit of the Emancipator President came down to him by a Pennsylvania ancestor of the same name.

Lincoln's forbears were early settlers not many miles from colonial Philadelphia. The earlier Abraham, a Berks county patriot, was a brother of John Lincoln, the President's great grandfather, who emigrated to Virginia. Mordecai Lincoln, his father, lived near Reading, on what is now the William Penn highway to Pottstown.

The Berks county Abraham was a member of the Pennsylvania Convention which ratified the Constitution of the United States in 1787. He did not sign but sided with the opposition, led by William Findley, which denounced the Constitution as a threat to the rights and liberties of States and individuals.

William Todd, of Westmoreland county, an ancestor of President Lincoln's wife, was another of the opposition members at the convention.

The influence of this opposition, says the Pennsylvania Constitution Commemoration Committee, is responsible for the first ten amendments to the Constitution, the so-called Bill of Rights, which sets forth the rights of trial by jury, free speech, religious freedom and the right to property.

The older Lincoln served as a Berks county commissioner from 1772 to 1779, and in the State Assembly from 1782-1785.

First Abraham Lincoln Urged Bill of Rights

Pennsylvania had an Abraham Lincoln, too—an ancestor of the Great Emancipator.

He was a resident of Berks county and a member of the Pennsylvania Convention that ratified the Constitution of the United States in 1787, it was reported yesterday by Albert M. Greenfield, chairman of the Pennsylvania Constitution Commemoration Committee.

Lincoln did not sign, however, but joined a group that denounced the Constitution as threatening the rights and liberties of States and individuals. Their fight was an important factor in the adoption of the first 10 amendments to the Constitution—the Bill of Rights.

Another member of the opposition group was William Todd, of Westmoreland county, an ancestor of President Lincoln's wife, Greenfield reported.

Record

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The Lincoln Kinsman

Number 24

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June, 1940

The Pennsylvania Lincolns

THREE GENERATIONS OF THE PRESIDENT'S ANCESTORS
LIVED IN THE STATE

When the name of Abraham Lincoln was put in nomination as a candidate for the Vice-Presidency at the first Republican National Convention at Philadelphia in 1856, there had already been at least a dozen Abraham Lincolns living within a few miles of the city. In fact the first man, as far as we can learn, who was named Abraham Lincoln died in the suburbs of Philadelphia.

The story of the Pennsylvania Lincolns originates with two brothers, Mordecai and Abraham, who came into the state from New Jersey in the year 1720. Mordecai eventually settled in Berks County and was the great great grandfather of President Lincoln. Abraham's descendants took up their abode in Philadelphia, and some of them still reside at Darby on the southern outskirts of the city.

President Abraham Lincoln, while a member of Congress in 1848, wrote to Solomon Lincoln of Massachusetts and stated: "We have a vague tradi-

tion that my grandfather went from Pennsylvania to Virginia and that he was a Quaker." This family folklore has been substantiated with reference to the migration of the family, and it appears as if the grandfather may have come under the influence of the Quakers.

On at least three occasions President Lincoln visited Philadelphia. He was there in June 1848 to attend the national Whig Convention; again in 1861 enroute from Springfield, Illinois, to Washington, D. C., where he was to be inaugurated President; and again in 1864 when he was the guest of honor at a Sanitary Fair. After his death his body was viewed lying in state at both Harrisburg and Philadelphia.

Other points in Pennsylvania where Lincoln is known to have delivered addresses are Pittsburgh, Harrisburg, Lancaster, and of course Gettysburg, where he spoke more eloquently than any other man has ever spoken in the

English tongue. He did not know when he spoke at Lancaster that his own grandfather was born in Lancaster County or in the adjacent county of Berks.

There are five members of the Pennsylvania Lincoln group which should be identified and featured in this copy of the *Kinsman*: Mordecai Lincoln the second, Abraham Lincoln the first, John Lincoln, commonly called Virginia John, an Abraham Lincoln we will call the Pennsylvanian, and another Abraham Lincoln, grandfather of the President, who was born in Pennsylvania. The Boone kinsmen of the Lincolns will also be mentioned.

Mordecai Lincoln the Second

How this unusual name Mordecai first happened to come into the Lincoln family we are not sure, but it probably started with the naming of Mordecai's father. Apparently it came from the family of Martha Lincoln, wife of Samuel. The first child of Samuel and Martha was named Samuel, the second Daniel for a brother of the elder Samuel, and the third was named Mordecai presumably for Martha's father. A fourth son was named Thomas for another brother of the elder Samuel.

The name Mordecai, because it is seldom used, became the key-word by which the ancestry of Abraham Lincoln was eventually traced, the President admitting that Mordecai was one of the old family names among the Lincolns.

Mordecai the second was born in Massachusetts on April 24, 1686, the first child of Mordecai and Sarah Jones Lincoln. Sometime previous to 1714 he migrated to New Jersey

where he married Hannah Saltar, daughter of Richard Saltar. He moved his family to Pennsylvania in the year 1720. Mordecai and Hannah Lincoln had six children, one boy and five girls, John, Deborah, Hannah, Mary, Ann, and Sarah.

Mordecai Lincoln is noted on a deed dated February 2, 1720, as living in Monmouth County, New Jersey. Three months later his child Deborah Lincoln who died on May 15, 1720, was buried in Covell Hill Cemetery in Monmouth County. It was sometime between this last date and the end of the year that Mordecai moved to Pennsylvania, as his name appears on the tax list for 1720 with land near "the branches of the French Creek and Brandywine in Chester County, Pennsylvania."

While he still retained his New Jersey lands, yet it appears from the records that Mordecai became active in the iron industry in Pennsylvania. On February 28, 1723, Mordecai Lincoln and Samuel Nutt, both designated as "Ironmongers" residing in Coventry, Chester County, signed an agreement with William Branson, a Philadelphia merchant, to establish an iron-works.

Mordecai retained his interest in this company for only a year, however, when he sold out to one of the partners, Mr. Branson. On May 26, 1726, Mordecai purchased more land in New Jersey, but apparently he was still living in Pennsylvania, as the deed to the New Jersey property states that he was residing in Chester County.

The purchase of additional land from his father-in-law in New Jersey in 1726 might suggest that Mor-

decai intended to return to his old home, but the death of Mordecai's wife in 1727 and her father's death a year later probably were responsible for changing his plans, and he began to look around for farm lands in Pennsylvania. In the meantime in the summer of 1729 he married as his second wife Mary Robeson, and the following year purchased 303 acres of land that formerly belonged to his wife's father, Andrew Robeson.

Mordecai is said to have been buried in the cemetery of the Exeter Meeting House, and if so he must have affiliated with the Quakers, as only those of Quaker faith could be buried there according to the church rules. His change in faith must have come after his marriage to his second wife, as his first wife was a Baptist. Mordecai Lincoln the second was only fifty years old when he died.

It was on this 300 acre tract that Mordecai built the famous stone dwelling house in 1733, and it serves today as a monument to his industry and economic standing in the community. It is situated in Berks County. Mordecai lived but two years after the erection of this home, and his third child by Mary Robeson Lincoln was born a short time after his death and named Abraham. The other children were named Mordecai and Thomas.

The widow of Mordecai Lincoln was left to bring up and supervise the training of nine children. About the oldest son John there will be more to say later; the second child which died in New Jersey we have already mentioned; Hannah married Joseph Miliard and named her first son Morde-

cai; Mary married Francis Yarnall, a Quaker, and she also named her first son Mordecai; another daughter Ann married William Tallman who with her husband and her brother John, migrated to Virginia; Sarah was one of the first of the many Lincolns to intermarry with the Boone family of Quakers, her husband's name being William Boone, and she affiliated with the Quaker church.

It was through the three sons by the second wife that the name of Lincoln was given early prominence in Pennsylvania. Mordecai, the oldest, married Mary Webb, and they finally settled in what is now North Union Township. There were five children, two boys and three girls. Thomas, Mary Lincoln's second son, married Elizabeth Davis. To Thomas and Elizabeth Lincoln were born seven children. Their oldest son, Hananiah, migrated in 1782 to Kentucky with the grandfather of President Lincoln. Hananiah's two sons, Austin and Davis, were close neighbors of President Lincoln's father in Indiana. The President knew them well. The youngest son Abraham will be given special attention in a later paragraph.

Abraham Lincoln the First

The brother of Mordecai Lincoln the second was Abraham Lincoln the first. He was the son of Mordecai and Sarah Jones Lincoln of Hingham and Scituate, Massachusetts. Undoubtedly he was named Abraham for his mother's father, Abraham Jones, so it was the Jones ancestry which introduced the name into the Lincoln family.

Just when Abraham Lincoln the first left New Jersey, to which place he had migrated with his brother

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SUBJECTS DISCUSSED IN FORMER ISSUES
OF THE LINCOLN KINSMAN

1. The Colonial Lincolns, 2. The Unknown Hanks Ancestry, 3. The Herrings of Virginia, 4. Five Shipley Sisters, 5. The Todd Family, 6. Bush Family Documents, 7. Early 19th Century Lincolns, 8. Kentucky Archives, 9. Abraham Lincoln's Father, 10. Hon. Robert Todd Lincoln, 11. James Wright Sparrow, 12. Uncle Mordecai Lincoln, 13. Thomas (Tad) Lincoln, 14. The Tennessee Lincolns, 15. The Lincolns of Hingham, 16. The Richard Berry Family, 17. Southern Branch of the Hankses, 18. The Lincolns of England, 19. Synopsis Life of Lincoln, 20. Lincoln's Letters to His Wife, 21. Correspondence With Kinsmen, 22. A Hanks Family Tree, 23. New Jersey Lincolns.

Mordecai, and took up his residence in Pennsylvania, we are unable to say. He was in Monmouth County, New Jersey, as late as May 13, 1725, when he returned to the court an inventory of Peter Gordon's estate.

His name is first observed on the records of Pennsylvania on a deed issued by Thomas Williams who located Lincoln as living in Springfield, County of Chester, and Province of Pennsylvania. The date of this deed is January 16, 1729. The sale for this land seems to have been consummated on January 15, 1728, so he probably moved to Pennsylvania between May 1725 and January 1728.

Like his brother Mordecai he was an iron-worker, having set up a forge while he lived in New Jersey. Soon after reaching Pennsylvania he sold his New Jersey lands amounting to

440 acres. As late as 1740 he was still living in Springfield as indicated by the tax lists, and he was probably there three years later when he signed a petition of Mordecai Taylor who wished to open a tavern in Springfield.

On the ninth day of March 1744, Abraham purchased property on Elbow Lane in the city of Philadelphia. His lot backed up to lots on Chestnut Street. He still lived on his farm, however, as he mentioned in his will, "The plantation whereon I now dwell lying on the northeast side of the road leading to Chester."

Little is known about Abraham's wife except that her name was Rebecca, and by the time Abraham made his will on April 15, 1745, she was dead. There were seven children in the family, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Sarah, Rebecca, Mordecai and John. Most of his children married at Philadelphia, and many of them settled there permanently.

An appraisal of Abraham's estate gives some idea of his financial standing for besides his land and livestock, his personal property was appraised at 329 pounds. He had one slave appraised at 20 pounds, and four bedsteads, tables, chairs, silverware, clock, and the usual household furniture, smith's tools, and farming implements. His livestock consisted of 5 horses, 24 cattle, 25 sheep, and 4 hogs.

John Lincoln

Although Mordecai and Hannah Saltar Lincoln had six children, only one of them was a boy and his name was John. He was born in Monmouth County, New Jersey, on May 3, 1716, and when a lad but four years of age was brought to Pennsylvania. He was

only eleven years old when his mother died at Coventry in Chester County.

Two years later a new stepmother came into the family, and when John was seventeen his father moved his family into a new home. His father died there after the building of the new residence, and the year following John became twenty-one years of age. There is a possibility that he may have returned to New Jersey for a short time where property had been willed to him, but by July 5, 1742, he was back in Pennsylvania when he married Rebecca Flowers Morris, widow of James Morris and daughter of Enoch and Rebecca Flowers. Enoch Flowers was a Justice of the Peace who lived in Caernarvon Township.

Inasmuch as Enoch and Rebecca Flowers were great great grandparents of Abraham Lincoln, it would be of value to know something more about them. There was a Samuel Flowers in Caernarvon Township in 1743, but we do not know how he was related to Enoch.

Just where John and Rebecca Lincoln were living two years later when their first child Abraham was born we cannot be positive, so the birthplace of the President's grandfather, for whom he was named, will have to remain unmarked until further information is available.

We do know that two years after the birth of Abraham, the first son, John and Rebecca were living about one-half mile east of what is now the town of Birdsboro. Here on October 9, 1746, John Lincoln had acquired a tract of fifty acres of land. Two years later he purchased 150 acres adjacent

to his property, the new purchase running along the southern bank of the Schuylkill River.

In the early deeds noting John Lincoln's land transactions, and there were several of them, he is called "a weaver," and it seems very likely that he combined this profession with farming. It is apparent from certain offices which he held that he was a dependable citizen of the county, and in 1760 was one of the Berks County tax collectors.

Apparently he became restless about the time some of his Boone kinsmen began to acquire lands in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia, and his land transactions indicate he was anxious to acquire some ready cash for the purchase of Virginia land.

On May 17, 1762, he sold the 120 acre tract adjacent to the home place. In less than a month after this sale he purchased 36 acres in Amity which is definitely identified by the Monocacy station which now stands upon the land. Three years later, on May 27, 1765, he purchased 125 acres more in Amity adjoining the purchases just made. Two days later, however, he sold all his Amity land and on June 13, 1765, he sold the fifty acre tract in Union Township where he had first settled nearly twenty years before.

It was at this home site where John and Rebecca Lincoln lived during their Pennsylvania residence, and they had eight children in their family when they left for Virginia presumably in the year 1765. At this time their oldest son Abraham was twenty-one years of age and the youngest child, a son named Thomas, was four years old.

Abraham Lincoln, Pennsylvanian

Abraham, the posthumous child of Mordecai and Mary Lincoln, has often been confused with Abraham, the oldest son of John and Rebecca Lincoln. The former Abraham was born October 18, 1736, while the son of John and grandfather of the President was born May 13, 1744. Although there were only eight years difference in their ages, the former was the uncle of the latter. Abraham, the son of Mordecai, married Ann Boone, the daughter of James Boone and an own cousin of Daniel Boone. There were ten children born to them at their home at Exeter, and one of their sons was also named Mordecai.

The name of Abraham Lincoln was not new in political circles in Pennsylvania when a President was elected by that name. This Abraham Lincoln who was born in Exeter, Pennsylvania, in 1736 became an important character in pioneer political history.

In 1771 Abraham was elected county commissioner and served in this capacity until 1775. His name often appeared following this period, as clerk of sales and road viewer, and he was a sub-lieutenant in the county in 1778 and served as one of the assessors for the county in 1781. He was first elected to the general assembly in 1782, and for three consecutive years was returned to the office. His votes increased each year as follows: 1782—505, 1783—733, 1784—1125. Three years later he was a member of the state convention and of the constitutional convention of 1789-90. He was appointed on important state commissions such as the one directing the project for clearing Schuyl-

kill River and another which received subscriptions of the Germantown-Reading Turnpike Road. At the close of the Revolutionary War he is said to have been selected to make the address to General Washington at Philadelphia. Abraham Lincoln, the Pennsylvanian, died at Exeter on January 31, 1806, three years before the birth of his more famous political kinsman who was also to bear his name.

The Boone Kinsmen

When Mordecai Lincoln and his wife, Hannah Saltar Lincoln, settled in Berks County, Pennsylvania, about 1727, they found living close by their newly-acquired property, the family of George and Deborah Howell Boone. There were also other Boone families in the community, including Squire Boone and James Boone, brothers of George.

Mordecai Lincoln made his will in 1735, and, after naming his second wife, Mary Robeson Lincoln, as the executor of the estate, he concluded, "and my loving friends and neighbors Jonathan Robeson and George Boone, trustees to assist my wife." When the Lincoln estate was appraised, Squire Boone, father of Daniel Boone, the Kentucky pioneer, served as one of the appraisers. There is much evidence that Mordecai Lincoln, first Pennsylvania ancestor of President Lincoln, and Squire Boone, father of Daniel Boone, were close friends.

There were nine children in Mordecai Lincoln's family—four boys: John, Mordecai, Thomas, and Abraham; and five girls: Deborah, Hannah, Mary, Ann, and Sarah. In the

George Boone family there were ten children—five boys: George, William, Josiah, Jeremiah, and Hezekiah; also five girls: Mary, Hannah, Deborah, Dinah, and Abigail. Squire Boone's family consisted of eleven children—seven sons: Israel, Samuel, Jonathan, Daniel, George, Edward, and Squire; also four daughters: Sarah, Elizabeth, Mary, and Hannah. In the family of James Boone there were twelve children—six boys: James, John, Judah, Joshua, Moses, and Nathaniel; and six girls: Anne, Mary, Martha, Dinah, Rachel, and Hannah.

It is not surprising, with such a large number of young people in these two families being thrown together, to find in the second generation of Lincolns and Boones much intermarrying. On May 26, 1748, William Boone, son of George Boone, married Sarah Lincoln, daughter of Mordecai Lincoln; and on July 10, 1760, Abraham Lincoln, son of Mordecai Lincoln, married Anne Boone, daughter of James Boone. It is this last wedding which has greatly confused Lincoln students, and Abraham and Anne Boone Lincoln have often been referred to as the grandparents of the President.

Mordecai Lincoln's son, John, and George Boone's son, Josiah, were brought together in what might be called the first Lincoln-Boone migration. John Lincoln married Rebecca (Flowers) Morris on July 5, 1744; and six years later Josiah Boone married, according to our best information, Hannah Hite or Holman. Possibly there was an earlier marriage than this as the history of Josiah Boone is largely based on tradition.

Of this fact we are certain, that both John Lincoln and Josiah Boone migrated to Virginia about 1765 and established themselves on Linville Creek in what is now Rockingham County. Here they remained as neighbors for about ten years before the Kentucky migrations began. Josiah's land was sold to Michael Shanks on March 14, 1777, and three years later part of the property which John Lincoln had entered was sold to the same Michael Shanks. There is some evidence that Abraham Lincoln, son of John Lincoln and grandfather of the President, married a Berks County, Pennsylvania, girl.

Abraham Lincoln, John's oldest son, born in 1744, was the grandfather of the President. He migrated with his father to Linville Creek, Virginia, and on June 9, 1770, his marriage is recorded on the records of Augusta County, Virginia, but the name of the bride is not given. It is known that at the time of his death, in 1786, he was married to a woman whose first name was Bathsheba and whose maiden name is said to have been Herring. There is also a tradition that she was the second wife of the pioneer and not the woman he married in 1770, the mother of the first four children of Abraham. There was a Herring family in Berks County, Rachel Herring having married William Hamilton about 1765. There was also a Ludwig Herring who secured a land warrant in 1776.

Abraham Lincoln, son of John, named his children Mordecai, Josiah, Thomas, Mary, and Ann. The name Josiah is not found among the ancestors of the Lincolns; but, inasmuch as Josiah Boone had lived close to Abraham Lincoln's father in Berks

County, Pennsylvania, and was also a close neighbor on Linville Creek in Virginia at the time Abraham Lincoln was married, the supposition has been that Abraham Lincoln may have married one of Josiah Boone's daughters, hence the introduction of the name Josiah into the Lincoln family. Very little is known about the family of Josiah Boone, and no complete list of his children is available.

There is one tradition in the Boone family, that Lincoln married Hannah Winters, daughter of Ann Boone Winters, the sister of Daniel Boone. This story was published in *Galaxy Magazine* for January, 1877.

Another Boone tradition found in Waddel's *Annals of Augusta County* claims that Elizabeth, daughter of Ann Boone Winters, rather than Hannah Winters, married Lincoln. The identity of the Ann Boone as a sister of Daniel Boone lacks confirmation, and one authority comes to the rescue by claiming that Ann was an aunt instead of a sister of Daniel Boone. A William Winters was living on Linville Creek in Virginia, close by the family of Josiah Boone and John Lincoln, so that it may be possible that John Lincoln's son, Abraham, married a Winters, whose mother was a Boone, which would give the desired Quaker background.

LANDMARK OF MONMOUTH COUNTY

So completely has the old Tennent parsonage on the battle field of Monmouth been obliterated that recently when the United States Department of Agriculture wished to determine its exact location it was necessary to trace deeds and even to take aerial views in order to determine approximately where it stood. According to E. Marie Becker, who was formerly with the Monmouth County Historical Association, it has been determined that the Tennent parsonage stood on the Applegate Farm. In the year 1859, the much scarred building was still standing and a lithograph was published by William S. Potter of Freehold, the lithographer being Charles Currier, who was the brother of Nathaniel Currier. Charles Currier worked for the firm of Currier & Ives but it is rare that his name appears on a plate.

The Battle of Monmouth occurred June 28, 1778.



12. THE OLD TENNENT PARSONAGE, ON MONMOUTH BATTLE FIELD, 1859. Erected 1706. Published by William S. Potter, Freehold, N. J. Lithograph by C. Currier, the brother of Nathaniel Currier. $11\frac{1}{2}$ by $15\frac{3}{4}$ inches plus margins. Lithograph colored by hand. \$65.

Thomas Lincoln of Manheim . . .

A link connects the genesis of Stiegel glass with that of Abraham Lincoln. The Thomas Lincoln mentioned in the glass books of Hunter, Knittle, and the McKearins was the third son of Mordecai Lincoln II of Berks County, Pennsylvania, the great-great-grandfather of the President. Mordecai was of the third generation in America.

Mordecai's first son, John, was known as Virginia John because he moved his family to Rockingham County, Virginia. From there his son Abraham, born in Berks County and a captain of Virginia militia in the Revolutionary War, migrated with Daniel Boone into Kentucky. There his son Thomas (sixth generation), every fanciful story to the contrary, sired the First American. It may be of marginal interest to add that the fore-family of Lincoln's mother, Nancy Hanks, lived a half mile from Mordecai Lincoln in Berks County and, according to some reliable biographers, moved with John Lincoln and the Boone family to the promising land of the Shenandoah Valley.

Thomas Lincoln of Manheim was "born about 1732 probably at Amity." Sometime after he became of age, he inherited one third (300 acres) of his father's land in Amity. He was taxed in Reading for the years 1757 and 1759 at least. On October 2, 1858, at about the age of twenty-eight, he was elected sheriff of Berks County. According to one ancestry book, he was representative from Berks in the Pennsylvania General Assembly. Certainly he was a Berks County surveyor. During the years 1763, 1764, and 1765 he was employed by "Baron" Stiegel to lay out the new town site of Manheim and to divide it into lots. The ledgers of Elizabeth Furnace and of the new venture in glassmaking document the sums of money paid to Thomas Lincoln.

"Poor Lincoln, however," wrote Frederick W. Hunter in his book *Steigel Glass*, "got little permanent benefit, although he doubtless derived much enjoyment, from these rewards of his labor; for the account-books of Stiegel's King of Prussia Tavern at Manheim show that all this money and a good deal more beside found its way into the till of that house of entertainment." On November 4, 1776, he sold his inherited land to Michael Zeister (Reading Deeds, Bk. 2, p. 175).

Hunter might have written, Poor family of Lincoln! Thomas died nine years later at the age of forty-three, leaving a widow and seven minor children and, as inventoried by Benjamin Park Warren on August 14, 1775, an estate consisting of "one purse and apparel 5-2-6, Surveyors compass, chain and protractor 5-0-0, two old books 0-2-0, one old coat 0-5-0, and one piece of parchment 0-1-0."

This great-great-uncle of Abraham Lincoln appears to have been just another shattered, offhand Stiegel product.

— MILTON H. SHUTES, M.D.

From The Magazine *ANTIQUES*
March 1945

1
PHILADELPHIA AUTOGRAPH CO.

1816 SPRUCE STREET

PHILADELPHIA 3, PA.

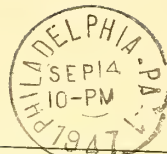
Dear Dr. Warren:

Sept. 13, 1947

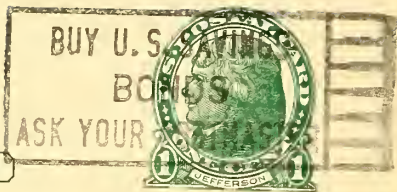
Thought following may have
some Lincoln Association:

" Parchment deed- 1794-Phila. whereby
Jacob Lincoln and Mary his wife of Kingsessing
Township, Phila. County conveyed land therein
described. Jacob made his mark byt Mary
signed her name Price \$5.00

not a record.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS



Lincoln Lore
Fort Wayne, Ind.
Dr. Louis Warren.

READING-BERKS COUNTY BICENTENNIAL

126-128 NORTH FIFTH STREET, READING, PA.. PHONE: READING 5-2751



© R-BC B1-C

General Chairman

FRED A. WOERNER
30 N. Sixth Street
Reading, Penna.

Secretary

GORDON M. JONES
441 Penn Street
Reading, Penna.

Treasurer

JUDSON B. SEVERNS
P.O. Box 1536
Reading, Penna.

Director

ALFRED STERN
Baldwin and Mermey

19 January 1948

Dr. Lewis A. Warren, Director
Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Dr. Warren:

You may know that this year is the 200th anniversary of the founding of Reading by Thomas and Richard Penn, sons of William Penn.

In connection with the Reading-Berks County Bicentennial and in conjunction with the Historical Society of Berks County, we propose having a reunion on Thursday, February 12th at 2 P. M., of Pennsylvanian descendants of the Lincoln family at the Mordecai Lincoln Homestead (the great, great Grandfather of President Abraham Lincoln), located a few miles outside of Reading.

We have advised the Abraham Lincoln Association in Springfield, Illinois regarding this event and our desire to have a nationally recognized authority on Lincoln as a principle speaker in addition to the Pennsylvanian Lincoln descendants. Your name topped the list of those suggested by the Lincoln Association and I am therefore instructed by the Executive Committee to ask you if you would consent to be our guest speaker on that day. We will, of course be delighted to pay all expenses involved.

If your calendar permits you to be with us on February 12th do let us know at your earliest possible convenience, as there are many details regarding national and local press and radio coverage which have to be worked out.

Your cooperation in this event would go far to add additional lustre in this the most important Bicentennial observance scheduled for February.

Awaiting your early reply, I am

Respectfully yours,

Alfred Stern
Alfred Stern, Director.

Reading — Willing and Able

AIR MAIL

January 21, 1948

Mr. Alfred Stern, Director
Reading-Berks County Bicentennial
126-128 North Fifth Street
Reading, Pa.

Dear Mr. Stern:

This is to advise you that Dr. Louis A. Warren is at present on a two months speaking itinerary with booked engagements on the Pacific Coast for February 12th. Consequently, he would be unable to address the Historical Society of Berks County on that date.

Dr. Warren would be pleased, I am sure, to address your group at some future date if it could be arranged.

I shall bring your letter to his attention immediately upon his return to the office.

Very truly yours,

Margaret Moellering
Secretary to Dr. Warren

mm

READING-BERKS COUNTY BICENTENNIAL

126-128 NORTH FIFTH STREET, READING, PA., PHONE: READING 5-2751



© R-B C B-I-C

General Chairman
FRED A. WOERNER
30 N. Sixth Street
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Treasurer
JUDSON B. SEVERNS
P.O. Box 1536
Reading, Penna.

Director
ALFRED STERN
Baldwin and Mermey

22 January 1948

Miss Margaret Moellering
The Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana

Dear Miss Moellering:

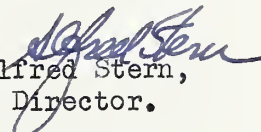
This is to acknowledge your letter of January 21st. I appreciate your prompt reply.

It is indeed unfortunate that Dr. Warren is on the Coast at this time as we would have been honored by his presence here during the Mordecai Lincoln descendants reunion.

In his absence I wonder if you are in a position to suggest another appropriate speaker who we might invite on this occasion. If you would be so kind as to send me one or two names and addresses, we will get in touch with them at once. In all cases, we will pay all traveling expenses and any other incidental expenses.

Your cooperation in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,


Alfred Stern,
Director.

Reading — Willing and Able

January 26, 1948

Mr. Alfred Stern, Director
Reading-Berks County Bicentennial
126-128 North Fifth Street
Reading, Pa.

Dear Mr. Stern:

In reply to your request for appropriate speakers for the Historical Society meeting on February 12th I should like to recommend the following as outstanding Lincoln students and members of the Lincoln Foundation Advisory Group:

Mr. F. Lauriston Bullard
141 Walton Park
Melrose Highlands, Mass.

Mr. Edgar DeWitt Jones
31 Elm Park
Pleasant Ridge, Michigan

Mr. Henry E. Luhrs
(Lincoln Fellowship of Pa.)
Shippensburg, Pa.

Very truly yours,

Margaret Moellering
Secretary to Dr. Warren

Consulted with Tom Cook. He advised above men.

Jan. 30, 1948.

Dear Dr. Warren:

Since our conversation on Nov 19th in the Lincoln Room in Gettysburg I have had some time to look into your request for information on Mordecai Lincoln as to the exact burial spot in the burial ground at the Exeter Meeting House.

From the archives or minutes of the Exeter Meeting which are deposited in vault of the Society of Friends, 4th + Arch St., Phila., Pa., I learned that burial was not according to plots as is customary in present day cemeteries. They buried simply one after the other in rows. The last burial at Exeter was on Aug. 22, 1934, being Charles Lee. I am going to Reading and look at the records or files of "The Reading Eagle" to ascertain who the undertaker was. Then I'll ask the undertaker how he knew he was to bury Charles Lee in Row # 7 and grave # 22. I am keeping my fingers crossed, hoping that the undertaker may have a "plan" showing exactly how the rows ran. The minutes show that Mordecai Lincoln was buried in Row # 2 Grave # 2 counting from the southeast corner.

In the minutes of the Exeter Meeting it stated that the burial ground was for the use only of members of the Meeting. The Lincolns were not members of the Meeting yet eight (over)

(2)

Lincolns are buried there; I have no explanation for this, should I say, violation of the rules.

Here are some figures on the Exeter Meeting itself.

- (1) Meeting originally known as Oley Oley taken from the township name Oley
- (2) Meeting organized before 1727.
- (3) Meeting established as a monthly meeting 1737.
- (4) name changed to Exeter when Exeter Twp was cut out of Oley Twp in 1742.
- (5) ~~the~~ Present meeting house built 1759.
- (6) Location near Stonersville, Pa., (Berks County)

When I get any additional information, which I hope will be soon, I'll forward it to you.

I want to get a compass as soon as the weather is fit and go up to Exeter and try to establish the S.E. corner & determine which way the rows run, if possible. I am enclosing also the list of all Lincolns buried at Exeter, I do not know their exact relationship unless noted, note the two John Lincolns

I hope the material I have secured thus far will be of some help to you,

Sincerely yours,

Guy D. Reibert,
Boyertown, Pa.

List of Lincoln burials at Exeter Meeting, Berks Co., Pa.

1822	Sept. 14	Mordecai Lincoln	Row #2	Grave #2
1836	Dec. 31	Alice Lincoln (wife of Thomas Lincoln)	Row #3	Grave #18.
1847	Feb. 25	Anna Lincoln	Row #3	Grave #21
1849	Jan. 2	Mentha Lincoln	Row #3	Grave #23.
1858	Sept. 25	Julia Lincoln (wife of Mordecai Lincoln)	Row #5	Grave #5
1863	Dec. 30	Thomas Lincoln	Row #5	Grave #13
1864	April 8	John Lincoln	Row #5	Grave #14.
1895	June 22	John Lincoln	Row #6	Grave #28.

GUY F. REINERT
BOYERTOWN, PA.

Reading Eagle

Jan. 18, 1948 RE

Reunion Planned At Lincoln Home

Reading
Bicentennial Event
Set for February 12

The picturesque Lincoln homestead in Exeter Township where Mordecai Lincoln, great-great-grandfather of Abraham Lincoln, once lived will be the scene of a reunion of descendants of the Civil War President on February 12. The reunion is being arranged as a part of the city's bicentennial celebration. *Reading*

Eleven men and women who are descendants of Lincoln have been asked to join in the historic ceremony. Three of them from Berks County are: Mrs. Clara Lincoln Parvin Meinig, of Wyomissing Hills; Benjamin Parvin, of Lees-

port, and Mrs. Mary Garrigus Lincoln Kropp, of 2598 Grant St., Mt. Penn.

The others include: Mrs. Celeste Parvin Mackey, of Overbrook; Frances Parvin Poole, of Cynwyd; Lincoln Parvin, of Hazzardville, Conn.; Mrs. Elizabeth Lincoln Knight, of Haverford; Mrs. Lucia Lincoln Parvin Riddle, of Wabin, Mass.; Mrs. Edith Lincoln Graham, of Chestnut Hill; Mary Ives Parvin, of New York City, and James Finney Lincoln, president of the Lincoln Electrical Company, Cleveland, who has been asked to be the key speaker.

A good stand of alfalfa will crowd out weeds. Sweet clover, which starts growth early in the spring, is also a good weed fighter

"nature"

February 2, 1948

Mr. Guy F. Reinert
Boyertown, Pa.

Dear Mr. Reinert:

Due to the absence of Dr. Warren, who is at present on the Pacific coast on a two months speaking itinerary, I have taken the liberty of acknowledging your correspondence.

I am certain Dr. Warren will be pleased to receive the information you have discovered regarding the burial spot of Mordecai Lincoln as well as the newspaper article regarding the reunion at the Reading Bicentennial on February 12th.

Just as soon as Dr. Warren return to the office I will call his attention to your letter.

Very truly yours,

Margaret Moellering
Secretary to Dr. Warren

mm

March 24, 1948

Mr. Guy F. Reinert
Boyertown, Pennsylvania

My dear Mr. Reinert:

I hope you will not think I was not appreciative of the interesting information which you forwarded with respect to the Exeter Cemetery.

The information you have given me is of great interest and I hope some day we may do something with respect to having a tablet erected probably outside of the burying ground, indicating the spot where Mordecai lies buried.

Of course if you find some further information about this burial place, I would be interested in having it.

Thanking you again for your courtesy, I am

Very truly yours,

LAW:EB

Director

Bicentennial To Feature 1733 Lincoln Shrine

READING, Pa., Jan. 17.—(UP) —National interest is being revived in one of the least-known Lincoln shrines of this country as Reading in Berks County prepares to celebrate in 1948 bicentennial of its founding.

Even before Thomas and Richard Penn, sons of William Penn who gave the state the family name, founded Reading in 1748, ancestors of the Great Emancipator had settled near this modern industrial city.

The home Mordecai Lincoln, the great-great-grandfather of President Abraham Lincoln, built in Berks County in 1733 still stands. It is on a little traveled gravel road in the village now called Exeter. The home will be featured as part of the centennial.



MORDECAI LINCOLN

THE President's great-great-grandfather, Mordecai Lincoln, was the first member of the family to reside in Berks County. Louis Richards, one of Reading's leading historians of the last century, stated that the family had come to Massachusetts early in the 17th century and that some of the descendants of the first immigrants still reside near Boston (1900). The Mordecai Lincoln who came to Berks was born in 1686. This Mordecai was the son of Mordecai Lincoln Sr. and had two brothers, Abraham and Isaac. In 1717 Abraham and Mordecai moved to Monmouth County, N. J., where it is believed that they engaged in smelting iron ore. From 1720 to 1726 Mordecai Lincoln is listed as a taxpayer in Coventry Township, Chester County, Pa.

In the year 1730 Thomas Millard and his wife, Barbara, conveyed 1,000 acres of land in what is now Exeter Township, Berks County, to Mordecai Lincoln "ye elder." The designation "ye elder" was neces-



sary because Mordecai of Pennsylvania, the son of Mordecai of Massachusetts, also had son named Mordecai. Lincoln must have had an interest in the lands conveyed to him in 1730 at some earlier date because the Millard deed showed that the land had been conveyed to him by Jonathan and Elizabeth Robeson and Mordecai Lincoln as early as October, 1729.

IT WAS EITHER the first Mordecai in Pennsylvania, or his son, Mordecai (Berks II), who built the homestead which is still standing. Originally the gable end contained a stone bearing the inscription: M. L. 1733. This has been obliterated by the erection of another wall (A. N. Burkholder). Mordecai was a justice of the peace and during his residence in Berks, was a slave holder. The owning of slaves was not outlawed in Pennsylvania until early in the 19th century; most ironmasters owned slaves in colonial times. Mordecai Lincoln (Berks I) helped to lay out the highway which ran from the Tul-



pehocken to the Oley Valley. These communities were 30 miles apart; the formation of the road was one of the factors which led to the establishment and location of the city of Reading.

Mordecai Lincoln (Berks I) died at some time between the making of his will in February, 1735 (old style), and June 7, 1736 (O. S.), when the will was offered in probate. The homestead in Exeter was divided among three sons, Mordecai (Berks II), Thomas (Berks I) and a posthumous son, Abraham (Berks I). The marker of the Historical Society of Berks County stands on the land which was given to Mordecai. This section was known as the "lowermost third" at the eastern end. The middlemost portion was given to Thomas and the "upper part," in the present Lorane district, was given to Abraham. Some of the land was developed into building lots and a community once known as Buttertown developed. The strange name for the village grew out of a provision that payments for tracts of land were made in the form of weekly supplies of butter to the former owners.

MISS M. A. YEICH wrote in 1942: On the Reiniger daffodil farm still can be seen traces of the irrigation system in use in the time of the Lincolns. Water from the "Great Creek," now the Antietam, was led through a series of ditches and a wooden aqueduct to most of



the fields of this and adjacent farms. The owners were to hold and enjoy the water from "the first day of the month called March to the 16th day of the month called October, yearly, and every year, forever." Each landowner was entitled to its use for a certain number of "21 parts" of time every week. The supply was controlled by a series of wooden gates and a "freeboard" of eight feet on each side of the race.

Miss Yeich informs us that a large cabin of eight or nine rooms stood on the "middlemost" tract, that of the present Reiniger farm, as late as 1859. It is her opinion that the stone house was the home of the younger Mordecai.

To another son, John Lincoln, born to Mordecai (Berks I) by his first wife, was deeded all of the Lincoln property in New Jersey. It was through John Lincoln that the President's line descends.

(To Be Continued)

Bei Newick Yaeger



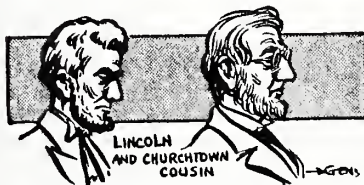
THE LINCOLNS TO VIRGINIA

JOHN LINCOLN, son of Mordecai (Berks I) was the great-grandfather of the martyred President, Abraham Lincoln (Illinois).

This John Lincoln reared a family of eight children in Berks County; among them a son Abraham (Berks II) who became the grandfather of the great Emancipator. In 1736 John Lincoln moved, with his family, to Rockingham County in Virginia where he was known to his friends as "Virginia John." Rockingham County, Virginia, was settled almost entirely by Pennsylvania Germans who migrated southward during the period from 1730 to 1776.

Mr. Franklin C. Moyer, of Reading, travels a great deal as his commercial interests take him to remote corners of the United States and the West Indies. In the course of his visits to Virginia, Moyer has discovered a considerable amount of little-known information about the Pennsylvania settlements in the Shenandoah Valley. It is to him that we owe some of the information we have about the Lincolns and Boones who moved from Berks.

Mr. Moyer tells us that the Pennsylvania German dialect is still spoken in the neighborhood of the old John Lincoln homestead, near Lynnvile, Va. However, only the older folks are proficient in its use;



the youngest who can speak it are approaching middle-age. Yet in the time of Lincoln's ancestors it flourished throughout the entire Shenandoah Valley.

THOMAS LINCOLN, the father of the President, was born at Lynnvile. Abraham (Berks II), son of John and father of Thomas, was a man of adventurous spirit. During one of his trips into the area which was then regarded as the Far West (Ohio) he was killed by a band of Indians.

The Virginia Lincolns owned slaves. A family burial plot is still kept intact near Lynnvile. There lie buried "Uncle Ned" and his wife, Queen, both slaves. There too we find a tombstone marked Abraham Lincoln, born 1799, ten years before "Honest Abe." This

Abraham Lincoln (Virginia) was the brother of Thomas, the President's father, and, therefore, the son of Abraham Lincoln, of Berks.

The burial plot of Exeter Meeting House in Berks County contains the remains of several Lincolns who remained in Berks. The graves are not marked but through the kind offices of Guy Reinert, of Boyertown, who has had access to some



Abraham Lincoln, of Churchtown, Pa., cousin of President Lincoln, at the age of 90.

of the treasured records of the Quaker Church, we are in a position to supply the names of the Lincolns who lie buried in the Exeter plot.

THEY ARE as follows:

Mordecai — Buried September 14, 1822

Alice, wife of Thomas — December 31, 1936

Anna Lincoln — February 25, 1847

Martha Lincoln — February 1, 1849

Julia, wife of Mordecai — September 25, 1858

(Turn to Page 34, Col. 1)

Thomas Dec 30, 1863
John April 8 1864
John June 22 1895

Feb 6, 1948



THE LINCOLNS AND THE BOONES

THE progenitors of two of the most famous personages in American history were neighbors in Exeter, Berks. George Boone was one of the persons who helped to administer Mordecai Lincoln's will. Abraham Lincoln (Berks I) was married to Anna Boone, daughter of James Boone. She was a first cousin of Daniel Boone, the Scout.

The close relationship continued after some branches of both families moved westward. The Lincoln farmstead in the Shenandoah Valley slopes to the westward, to a small creek. On the opposite side of the creek lived the Bryan family. Daniel Boone, the Indian



scout, married Rebecca Bryan. It is believed that he became acquainted with her during a visit with his old Berks neighbors, the Lincolns. Later the president's father, Thomas Lincoln, lived on the Yadkin River in South Carolina, where Daniel Boone and his bride began housekeeping.

Richard Lincoln, a resident of Birdsboro, who died many years ago, is the authority for the statement that he recalled a visit which Daniel Boone made to his old home in Berks, shortly after the Revolutionary War. According to Richard Lincoln, Boone was accompanied by his wife and two of his children. Boone visited his old haunts in Exeter. One day he visited his birthplace and stood under the mantelpiece over the large fireplace. Pointing to a notch in the oaken boards he remarked: "I cut that myself before I left for the west. It represented my height. I am now only a few inches taller." Tradition has it that Boone explained his departure from Reading and Berks by saying, "there were so many people" that he could not breathe freely and "entirely too many lawyers."

we suspect that this is merely apocryphal.

* * *

NANCY HANKS

WE HAVE dwelt upon the surname, Lincoln, through this series because in our man-run world the surname seems to bear some peculiar charm. In actuality the great President was a Hanks, as well as a Lincoln.

Historians have only the "vaguest" knowledge of the maternal line of Abraham Lincoln. Some writers have essayed to hint that



that portion of his background might well be forgotten. These writers belong to that better-forgotten school of "debunkers" that sprang into being in the flaming 20's of this century. Most students are agreed that Nancy Hanks was a native of the region known as the "Saddleback" of present-day West Virginia. It is known that her uncle's name was Joseph Hanks. Beyond that lies mystery.

We, in Berks, have an intimate interest in the origins of Nancy Hanks. There was a Joseph Hanc who was a taxable in Reading during the years between 1758 and 1763. Some local writers have leaped to the wishful thought that the name Hanc, a Pennsylvania German name, may have been changed to Hanks by careless frontiersmen and that, therefore, Abraham Lincoln could be given a double-Berks background.

This theory calls for a great deal of circumspection and wary research. On the face of it the story appears to be plausible.

* * *

This writer has always suspected that a considerable amount of Berks County culture entered into the makeup of Abraham Lincoln. His apt similes, drawn from natural things; his homely philosophy; his devotion to duty and ability to sublimate a cause point to some influence in his life which biographers have not explained. Lincoln, himself, gave us some testimony along this line when he told his Secretary Hay (also descended from Pennsylvania German forbears) that he had learned the expression, "Don't swap horses in the middle of the stream," from a "Dutch" farmer.

THE END.

-bei Newick Yaeger

10 4 9 115

Ancestors of Lincoln's Mother May Have Lived In Berks; Old Accounts Contain Name of Hank

By Caroline Albright

Picture on Page 9

For years historians, genealogists and collectors of Lincolniana have been trying to solve the riddle of the family background of Nancy Hanks, mother of Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States whose birthday is observed today.

Today an important clue to the answer is being displayed in a special Lincoln exhibit loaned by Earl Lincoln Ruppert, of 1458

North Front Street, to the Historical Society of Berks County, Centre Avenue and Spring Street.

Among the treasured Lincoln items in Ruppert's possession are four old ledgers or account books of the Lincoln family of Berks County to which President Lincoln traced his ancestry.

It is in one of those books, which once belonged to Abraham Lincoln, the posthumous son of Mordecai Lincoln, the great-grandfather of the famous Presi-

dent, that the name of a Joseph Hank appears.

Now it was a Joseph Hank who was the father of Nancy Hanks and one of the questions that has challenged students of the Lincoln family history has been the extent of the association of the Hank and Lincoln family here.

While it is true that Thomas Lincoln, father of the President, lived in Kentucky and that his wife came from Nelso County in

that state, it could be reasonable to believe that the same wave of emigration that carried some of the members of the Lincoln family from Exeter Township in Berks County to Virginia and the backwoods of Kentucky could also have swept along the Hank family.

The old account books, in which the names of many of the Lincoln kinfolk, of Boones, Messersmiths, Robesons, Boyers, Highs and other good old Berks County names appear, have been in Ruppert's family for many years.

Earl Lincoln Ruppert traces his kinship to President Lincoln through his mother, the former Anna Lincoln. She was a daughter of Alfred Lincoln, of Exeter Township, and the branches of Ruppert's family tree on his mother's side go back through John and Thomas Lincoln to old Mordecai Lincoln, who was also the Great Emancipator's great-great-grandfather.

Early records of Berks County show that a Joseph Hank lived in Reading from 1752 to 1759, and that a man of the same name was registered as a taxpayer in Exeter Township, home of the Lincolns, during the years 1779 to 1783, but that the name did not appear on tax lists after that. These facts about Joseph Hank are included in a paper read by the late Harry L. Kantner, a keen student of Lincoln history, at a meeting of the Historical Society of Berks County in November, 1924.

But the little old ledger loaned to the Society by Ruppert is, we understand, the first known to contain any tie-up of the names of Hank and Lincoln in at least a business relationship. The first time the name of Hank appears is in connection with the purchase of two bushels of wheat for nine shillings, four pence on January 29, 1766. No less than 15 times did Joseph Hank have dealings with this early Abraham Lincoln, the account book discloses.

This first Abraham Lincoln was a half-brother of John Lincoln, who led the members of the Berks County groups southward in 1768. Since the transactions of Hank with the Lincoln family took place two years before this trek from Exeter Township, one might

imagine that there was plenty of talk among these early Berks Countians and they did business together regarding the great possibilities which could open up for a man moving into that new wilderness to the south and west of this section.

It is also interesting to note that while county records, according to Kantner, account for the whereabouts of Joseph Hank during certain years, the ledger owned by Ruppert definitely establishes that the two families knew each other during years which historians have not been able to account for as far as the Hank family is concerned.

Names Spelled Differently

While some persons might raise the point that the name of President Lincoln's mother was spelled slightly differently from that of the Berks County family, it should be noted that the spelling of names in those days was not always consistent. The Lincoln family spelled the surname half a dozen different ways.

The original owner of the account book was an important member of this colonial community, conducted a saw mill and store, was a county commissioner, a member of the state convention and an assemblyman from Berks. On his death on January 31, 1806, he was buried at the Exeter Friends' Meeting House burial ground. His wife was Anne Boone, a cousin of Daniel Boone, and the names of members of the Boone family appear frequently in the book.

Despite its age this nearly 200-year-old ledger is in a fair state of preservation and the notations are interesting to the student of that period. One gains an idea of the cheapness of labor then from the entry noting, "On July 23, 1766, Thomas Millard beginning his year's work for 18 pounds." Apparently Thomas proved satisfactory for two years later his wages included a pair of shoes, a chest, washing and mending, the ledger states.

Sale of Goods Recorded

The second of the books, loaned by Ruppert, which has particular interest for Berks Countians, is the record of the sale of goods belonging to this early Abraham Lincoln on his death at the family home-

stead. Thomas Lincoln, of whom Ruppert is a direct descendant, and his brother Mordecai Jr., were the administrators of their brother's estate.

That the old Lincoln homestead in Exeter Township was well stocked is evident, for it took four public sales, or vendues as they were then called, to cover all the items duly listed in the ledger.

This record provides a wonderful glimpse into life on a colonial homestead. In quaint spelling, and in beautiful handwriting, are listed "waggon boxes, pairs of horseshoes, smith tooles and belles." We suspect that the last may have been "bellows." Plows, singletrees, sheep, coats, lambes and a heffer" were sold and a bull was purchased for four pounds, 15 shillings.

Wonderful Antiques

Antique dealers would have probably been in the seventh heaven of joy at that sale. For a walnut chest commanded four shillings, four pence, and Ann Boone Lincoln, the widow, bought back four chairs for a total outlay of ten shillings. Candlemolds went for nine pence, a crosscut saw for a shilling, and a bedstead for two shillings, six pence. Two armchairs were purchased for 13 shillings, but three "mise traps" set the buyer back two shillings. Apparently a mousetrap was a highly important and valuable piece of equipment in those days.

The old books are of further interest to the lover of the things of the past because covers of two of them are made from early Philadelphia newspapers and these too shed much light on the prevailing customs and fashions of the time. Paper was treasured highly in those days, for one notes that the account book containing the list of articles sold at the vendue is covered with a piece of the Philadelphia Gazette for June 13, 1794, and had been saved in the Lincoln homestead for 12 years.

Reading Eagle Feb. 12, 1948

Lincoln Descendants to Hold Reunion in Berks Thursday

Lincoln descendants—some of them from Berks County—will participate in the family reunion at the Mordecai Lincoln homestead in Exeter Township Thursday afternoon.

The reunion arranged as part of the Reading-Berks County Bicentennial program, also will mark the anniversary of the birth of President Lincoln, who was a great-great-grandson of Mordecai Lincoln.

Invitations to the Bicentennial event have been accepted by the following Lincoln descendants, whose kinship to Mordecai is listed:

Benjamin Parvin, of Leesport, great-great-great-grandson; Mrs. Mary Garrigues Lincoln Kropp, 2598 Grant St., Mt. Penn, great-great-great-granddaughter; Hans R. Meinig Jr., 17 Wyomissing Hills Blvd., Wyomissing Hills, great-great-great-grandson.

Mrs. Margaret Lincoln Hunt, 247 East Orange St., Lancaster, great-great-great-granddaughter; Mary Ives Parvin, 212 East 48th St., New York City, great-great-great-granddaughter, and Clifford F. Lincoln, 210 West Hortter St., Philadelphia, great-great-great-grandson.

Lincoln Parvin, of Hazardville, Conn., reported that "my great-great-great-grandfather and Abraham Lincoln's great-great-grandfather were half-brothers."

Mrs. Edith Lincoln Graham, 7802 Lincoln Drive, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, also is a Lincoln descendant who accepted the Bicentennial committee's invitation.

Built in 1733, the Mordecai Lincoln homestead is the oldest Lincoln landmark in the country. President Lincoln was quoted at one time as saying that his "great-great-grandfather was a uaker who settled in Berks County, Pa."

The reunion at the Exeter Township site, seven miles southwest of

Reading, will be held at 3 p. m. on Thursday.

C. H. Martin, of Lancaster, a member of the Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania, will discuss the background of the Pennsylvania branch of the Lincoln family. A wreath will be placed at the homestead marker by Lincoln descendants.

Reading, Berks Pay Tribute To Emancipator

Today is the 139th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln and tribute was paid to the Great Emancipator in Reading and Berks school rooms and at gatherings of other groups.

Lincoln's Birthday is a legal holiday and banks, city hall, the court house and other public offices were closed. Public and parochial schools conducted classes as usual with special exercises scheduled to honor the memory of the Civil War President and his deeds in keeping a great nation united.

Speakers at various civic gatherings throughout the week will make special mention of Lincoln and his life as storekeeper, lawyer, legislator, statesman and President.

One special event was included today in the observance of Lincoln's Birthday. It was a reunion of descendants of Mordecai Lincoln, great-great-grandfather of Abraham Lincoln, scheduled to be held at 3 p. m. at the Lincoln homestead in Exeter Township, seven miles southwest of Reading. This event was planned in connection with Reading's bicentennial celebration. Participants placed a memorial wreath on a marker at the Lincoln homestead. For the occasion Mr. and Mrs. John Hoffman, owners of the 60-acre farm on which the homestead is located, opened the property to the public.

LINCOLNS AND PA. DUTCH

In Reading's celebration of its bicentennial this year it is being recalled with great pride that the history of the Lincoln family in the United States contains a Berks county chapter that is important and significant.

As is well known, the Lincoln and the Boon families resided for a generation or more in Exeter township, that the dwellings which their pioneers constructed there are extant and that descendants of collateral relatives of Abraham Lincoln's forebears continue to live in Berks.

It is a matter for the people of the Pennsylvania Dutch country to be proud about that many of their forebears were the neighbors and close friends of the Lincolns and the Boones. They accompanied them on their trek into Virginia and then into Kentucky and with them blazed the trail into the rich bottomlands of Illinois where vast farms could be cultivated and the Pennsylvania Dutch passion for land could be gratified.

Oliver D. Havard, of this city, thruout the years has interested himself in the history of the Lincoln family. He has traced the successive steps by which it proceeded from Massachusetts, to New Jersey, to Pennsylvania, to the Kentucky log-cabin where Lincoln was born and to Illinois which was his last home before he went to the White House. He has visited the burying grounds for successive generations of Lincolns and invariably, from Pennsylvania on, has found gravestones and other evidences of the continuing association between the Lincolns and neighbors of undoubted Pennsylvania Dutch ancestry.

It cannot be known what effect that association may have had upon the Lincolns. It can be assumed that several generations at least spoke Pennsylvania Dutch as well as their native English, that they carried long rifles made by Pennsylvania Dutch gunsmiths, that their housewives exchanged recipes with their Pennsylvania Dutch neighbors and benefitted thereby and that in many other ways they were influenced by and in turn influenced their Pennsylvania Dutch associates.

**ON HARD ROAD
TO DEMOCRACY**

Today is the 139th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, perennial inspirer of American youth and brightest star which America has placed in the galaxy of the world's greatest leaders of men.

Altho a legal holiday in 32 States, the day is not generally observed in the idleness characterizing some holidays. Fortunately, perhaps, the schools of the nation continue their work for in the course of it then take occasion to observe it in a manner that children will never forget and from which they will profit.

Likewise the American people in the press and by radio are reminded of the occasion and the memory of a great man's achievements is sustained by a grateful people.

"Now he belongs to the ages" said one of his cabinet members prophetically when the Great Emancipator fell before the attack of a brutal assassin.

It would seem that he belongs not so much in history as in human hearts where he lives altho dead. Americans, whether of high or humble station, look upon him as the embodiment of the best things for which America stands and as the ideal American, perhaps of all times. He is the example set up for Americans to follow, ploddingly though we pursue the course along which he proceeded and undeniably would have had our people follow.

Eighty-three years have elapsed since his death and yet the path to more complete democracy in this country has not yet been traversed altho progress has been made. Slowly and painfully against obstructions that progress has been and must continue to be made before Americans can rightly consider our society and its government a pure democracy.

a nation's major industries and through rationing, pricing and other controls can determine the fate of all others, nothing more definite than a statement of policy is needed.

The case for the government is succinctly stated in the White Paper. "It is essential," says that document, "that there should be no further general increase in the level of personal incomes without at least a corresponding volume of production. Unless we are prepared to check such a tendency we shall find ourselves unable to fulfill our export task, owing to the rise in costs which will be reflected on the home market." It goes on to warn those who would embark upon the wage-price merry-go-round which is so popular with American labor, that in any race between prices and wages the former "always win in the long run" and workers always are the losers.

The government demands no one-sided bargain. It serves notice of intention to hold the line on living costs, using the power of taxation to prevent excessive profits. This is a frontal attack on inflation which is gaining victories in so many other parts of the world. It is the post-war application of the "blood, sweat and tears" which was all that Winston Churchill could hold out in Britain's darkest days of the war. There is no reason to believe that, given another such uncoated pill, the British will not swallow it just as courageously. New York Sun.

Lincoln Kin Hold Reunion in Exeter

Gather at Homestead of President's Ancestor

Reading, Feb. 12.—Descendants of Mordecai Lincoln, great-great-grandfather of the Civil War President, held at reunion today at their ancestor's historic homestead in Exeter township, seven miles southwest of here.

The reunion was part of the Reading-Berks County Bicentennial celebration as well as a Lincoln's Birthday observance. In addition to a wreath-laying ceremony at a marker outside the 215-year-old house, the program included a visit to a small building where the Great Emancipator's ancestor is believed to have kept slaves.

The property is now owned and occupied by Mr. and Mrs. John Hoffman, who are not related to the Lincoln family.

Eleven Mordecai Lincoln descendants were expected at the reunion. They are Mrs. Edith Lincoln Graham, of Chestnut Hill; Mrs. Celeste Parvin Mackey, Overbrook; Mrs. Elizabeth Lincoln Knight, Haverford; Frances Parvin Poole, Cynwyd; Mrs. Clara Lincoln Parvin Meinig, Wyomissing Hills; Benjamin Parvin, Leesport; Mrs. Mary Garrigus Lincoln Kropp, Mt. Penn; Lincoln Parvin, Hazardville, Conn.; Mrs. Lucia Lincoln Parvin Riddle, Waban, Mass.; Mary Ives Parvin, New York, and James Finney Lincoln, president of the Lincoln Electrical Co., Cleveland.

The Conditions of this public Vendue held by the Subscribers on the fourth day of April 1806 at the late Dwelling house of Abraham Lincoln deceased, in Exeter Township, Berks County, is that the highest bidder shall be the buyer, any Person buying so much money, on credit shall pay ready Money; but whoever buys so more than the amount of ten Shillings shall have four Months Credit upon giving satisfactory security when required to

Mordecai Lincoln }
Thomas Lincoln } Administrators

£ s d.		£ s d.	
Mordecai Lincoln	to 18 Acres of Wheat at £1.16 per Acre	32	8 0
do do	to 5 Acres of Rye at 16s per Acre	3	10 0
Joseph Boone	to 3:30 of Wheat at £1.16 per Acre	5	14 0
do do	to 15½ Acres Rye at 16s per Acre	12	8 0
Mordecai Lincoln	to 7¼ Acres Rye at £1.2.6 per Acre	8	3 1½
Thomas Lincoln	to 7½ Acres Rye at £1.2.6 per Acre	8	8 9
James Lincoln	to 1 Stove	3	15 0
Joseph Boone	to 1 Windmill	0	12 6
Mordecai Lincoln	to 191 lb Bacon at 7d per lb	5	19 4
do do	to 85 lb Beef at 6d per lb	2	2 6
Amos Davis	to 40 lb Bacon at 10d per lb	1	13 4
John Warr	to 46 lb Bacon at 9½ per lb	1	16 5
John Crookman	to 26 lb Beef at 5d per lb	0	11 11
Jacob Barnett	to 19½ lb Beef at 5d per lb	0	8 10
John Christian	to 16 lb Beef at 5d per lb	0	6 8
Elizabeth Bowers	to 12 lb Bacon at 7d per lb	0	7 0
Carried forward		88	5 5
Brought forward		88	5 5
John Warr	to 3 lb of Fat at 11d per lb	0	15 4
Abraham Keller	to 7 lb do at do	0	13 5
Dele Bechtel	to 6 lb do at do	0	11 3
Spence Mower	to 6 lb do at do	0	11 3
Ann Glasgow	to 18 lb do at do	0	19 6
John Warr	to 19 lb do at do	1	0 7
Dele Bechtel	to 13 lb do at do	0	6 2
do do	to 9¾ lb do at do	0	3 5
John Warr	to 9 lb do at do	0	4 1½
Dele Bechtel	to 9 lb do at do	0	3 4
do do	to 4½ lb do at do	0	1 6
Thomas Boone	to 10¼ Vardens Linen at 25s per D.	2	4 5
Thomas Lincoln	to 19¼ Vardens Linen at 11s per Yard	1	8 5
do do	to Fat	0	5 10
do do	to 14 lb do at 3d per lb	0	3 6
Ann Glasgow	to 4 pair of Fat	0	3 11
Elizabeth Braunter	do do	0	5 2
Jacob Barnett	to 1 do do	0	1 9
Ann Glasgow	to 4 pair of Pillowcases	0	1 3
Thomas Lincoln	to 1 do do	0	1 3
do do	to 1 do do	0	1 3
do do	to 1 do do	0	1 7
Joseph Boone	to 1 do do	0	1 8
Thomas Lincoln	to 1 pair of Sheets	0	7 6
Ann Glasgow	to 2 Tableclothes	0	11 5
Thomas Lincoln	to 2 do	0	5 10
Carried forward		100	0 9½

READ

Reading Eagle - Feb. 12, 1948

An old ledger in the possession of Earl Lincoln Ruppert, 1458 North Front St., records a sale held at the Lincoln homestead in Exeter Township in 1806 following the death of Abraham Lincoln, the great-uncle of the 16th President of the United States. This record and other treasured Lincoln items, long in the Ruppert family, are now on display at the Historical Society of Berks County, Centre Avenue and Spring Street. Prices listed are interesting in the light of today's living costs. In those days, purchases were made in pounds, shillings and pence. Mordecai and Thomas Lincoln, the administrators of their brother's estate, were sons of Mordecai Lincoln, the great-great-grandfather of President Lincoln. (Eagle Staff Photo.)

Lincoln Kin Hold Reunion

**Ceremony Conducted
At Homestead In
Exeter Township**

The homestead of Mordecai Lincoln, great-great-grandfather of Abraham Lincoln, is a symbolic reminder that "one of humble birth can rise to leadership among his fellow men," C. H. Martin, of Lancaster, said yesterday at a Lincoln reunion on the Exeter Township farm.

Speaking to 18 descendants of Mordecai Lincoln who assembled for the ceremony arranged by the Reading-Berks Bicentennial Committee as a tribute on President Lincoln's birthday anniversary, Martin said the homestead should be preserved as a shrine in honor of the Great Emancipator and "the generations of his ancestry who resided here."

The Lincoln kin gathered at the two-century-old stone home at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon to renew acquaintances, swap stories about the family's history, examine Lincolnia and join in the formal ceremony.

A wreath was placed in front of a historical marker at the homestead by Roswell S. Lincoln, 81, of 220 North Ninth St., and Mary Lincoln Kropp, ten, of Mt. Penn. They were the oldest and youngest descendants of Mordecai Lincoln present at the reunion.

Historical Background

Alfred Stern, Bicentennial director, who arranged the get-together, introduced Martin to the group. Martin, who represented the Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania, talked about the historical background of the Lincoln family in this state.

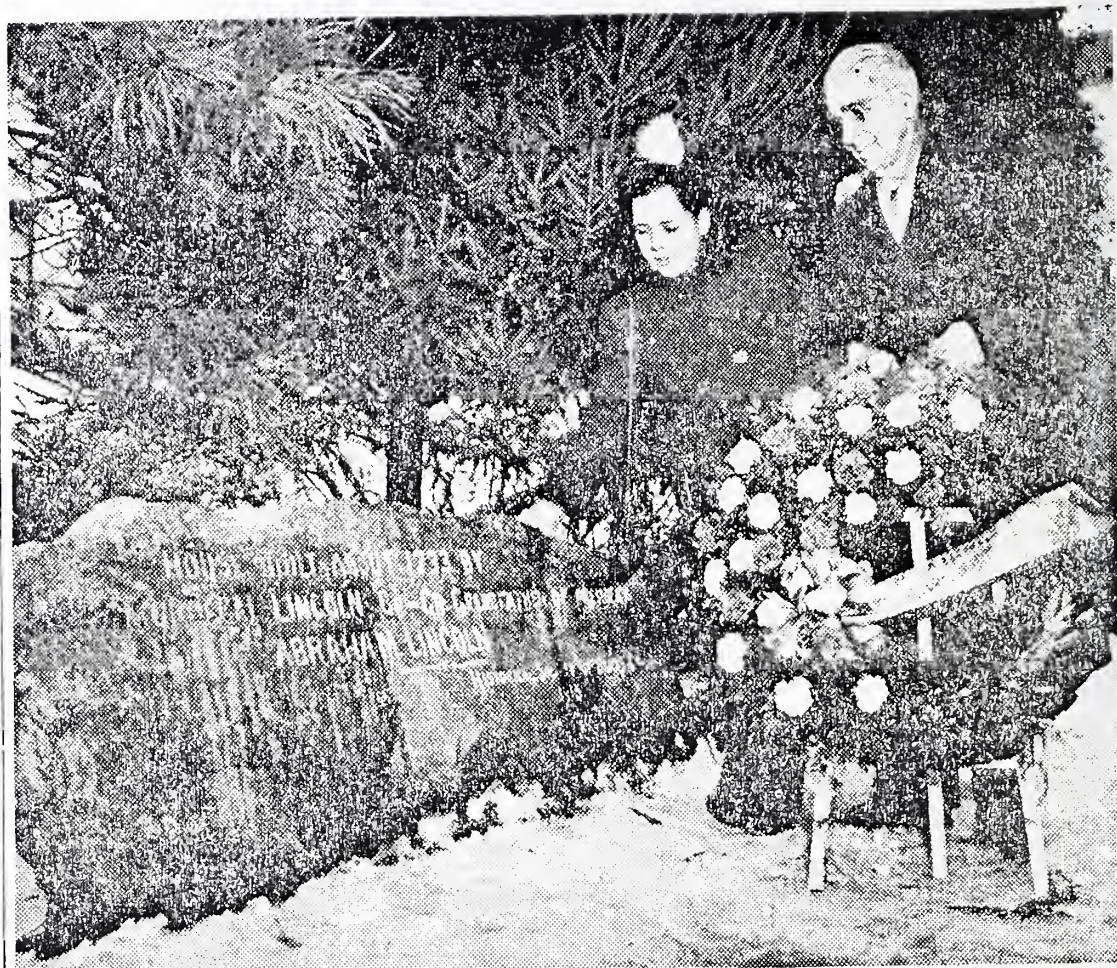
Martin described how Mordecai migrated from Massachusetts to New Jersey and then into Pennsylvania, settling first in the region of Chester County. Tax records there date Mordecai's arrival in 1720. He purchased a 300-acre tract of land where the present homestead stands, in 1730. A date of 1733 once appeared on a stone in a gable of the home, but the stone since has been removed.

The Lincoln family left Berks County when a son, John, moved to Virginia. He was the great-grandfather of the President. All of the Lincoln kin at the reunion are descendants of Mordecai and his second wife.

Inspect Home

During the reunion, the kinsfolk inspected the home, a low-roofed, thick-walled stone building which now is owned and tenanted by Mr. and Mrs. John Hoff-

Wreath Placed at Lincoln Homestead Marker



Mary Lincoln Kropp, ten, of Mt. Penn, and Roswell S. Lincoln, 81, of 220 North Ninth St., place a wreath in front of a marker at the Mordecai Lincoln homestead in Exeter Township. Descendants of Mordecai Lincoln held a reunion there yesterday as part of a Bicentennial observance of Abraham Lincoln's birthday. Mordecai Lincoln was the great-great-grandfather of Abraham Lincoln. (Eagle Staff Photo.)

man. They bought the property 27 years ago.

Among those participating in the reunion were: Pearl Reese Parvin and Benjamin Parvin, of Leesport; Mary Ives Parvin, of New York City; Harrison T. Lincoln, Roswell S. Lincoln, Caleb Killian, Heaster Killian, Earl Ruppert, Ruth Geissler and Darrell Geissler, all of Reading; Mrs. Alice Muhlenberg and Jack Muhlenberg, of Morgantown; Mrs. Webster Lincoln Kropp and Mary Lincoln Kropp, both of Mt. Penn; Mrs. Clarkson Hunt, Dr. Herbert H. Beck and C. H. Martin, the speaker, all of Lancaster; and Mark R. Bittner, of Allentown.

John Lincoln brought to the reunion a picture of Alfred G. Lincoln, third cousin of the President. Alfred Lincoln was the grandfather of John Lincoln and Earl Ruppert.

Mrs. Hunt, a great-great-great-granddaughter of Mordecai, showed the reunionists an old letter which Jacob Boone, a grandson of Daniel Boone, wrote to James Lincoln, a grandson of Mordecai, who lived in Churchtown (then Conestoga) in 1818. The letter described the hardships Boone encountered while returning to Kentucky from a visit to the Berks-

Lancaster region.

Another bit of Lincolnia was produced by Caleb Killian, of Reading, in the form of the records of a public sale and auction at the Lincoln homestead on December 20, 1806.

State Troopers Michael J. Turick and Joseph Delaney, of the West Reading barracks, directed the traffic.

READING EAGLE, FRI

LINCOLN LORE

Bulletin of the Lincoln National Life Foundation - - - - Dr. Louis A. Warren, Editor
Published each week by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Number 986

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

March 1, 1948

THE PENNSYLVANIA LINCOLNS

The program being sponsored by the Reading-Berks Bicentennial Committee should invite a further study of all the residences of President Lincoln's ancestors in the state of Pennsylvania.

Mordecai — Great-Great-Grandfather

Mordecai was the earliest direct Lincoln ancestor of the President to settle in Pennsylvania. With him came his brother, Abraham, the first of the Lincoln clan to bear that name. They were the sons of Mordecai Lincoln of Scituate, Massachusetts, and grandsons of Samuel Lincoln of Hingham, the first Lincoln progenitor of the President to settle in America.

Both Mordecai and his brother Abraham lived in New Jersey about seven years before migrating to Pennsylvania. While residing in New Jersey, Mordecai married Hannah Saltar, to which union there were born one son, John, and five daughters. One of the daughters died in infancy and lies buried in Monmouth County, New Jersey.

Mordecai and Hannah Lincoln and their family settled at "Scoolkill", later called Coventry Township, in Chester County. Here Mordecai in partnership with Samuel Nutt and William Branson operated a forge on French Creek. Just how long Mordecai remained here it is difficult to determine. There is some indication he intended to return to New Jersey as he sold his interest in the forge for five hundred pounds on December 14, 1726, and five months later he bought of Richard Saltar, a tract of land in Monmouth County, New Jersey. Apparently it was about the time of the New Jersey land purchase in 1727, that his wife, Hannah, passed away and left him with five children, the oldest but eleven, and the youngest, an infant born shortly before the mother's death.

About two years following Hannah's death, Mordecai married in the summer of 1729, Mary Robeson, daughter of Andrew Robeson of Amity, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania. He had located in Amity Township as early as May 15, 1728, at which time he was appointed a commissioner for the defense of the community against the Indians. The same year as his second marriage, he first leased and later purchased the land on which he build the brick dwelling in 1733, to which we have already referred. He did not live long to enjoy the new house as three years later he passed away, at forty-nine years of age, and left his second wife, not only with the five children by his first marriage, but with three more children by his later marriage, one of them born after the father's death. Although all were under twenty-one, the older children were approaching maturity.

Berks County was not formed until 1752, out of Philadelphia, Lancaster, and Chester counties, sixteen years after Mordecai's death. In reality he never lived in the county which was later to embrace the land where his old house stands. Furthermore, most of the descendants of Mordecai Lincoln bearing the Lincoln name are the offspring of Mordecai Jr., Thomas, and Abraham, children by his second wife, and it is with this group that the Amity or Exeter home, as it is now called, is more definitely associated. Mordecai Lincoln, great-great-grandfather of the President lived in Pennsylvania at Coventry eight years, and Amity eight years, a total of sixteen years in Pennsylvania.

John Lincoln — Great-Grandfather

The only son of Mordecai Lincoln by his first wife was named John and he was born in New Jersey on May 3, 1716. He was four years old when his parents moved to Pennsylvania and settled in the Coventry home. When the family with the step-mother moved to Amity, John was twelve years old. He had reached the age of twenty when his father died.

The next seven years of John's life are almost a blank as there appears to be no record referring to him

during this period. There is a tradition extant that he returned to New Jersey where he had inherited some land from his father in Middlesex County. During this period, however, wherever he may have been, he learned the weaver's trade, and in his land transactions later on he is designated as "a weaver."

From the time Berks County was established in 1752, the name of John Lincoln often appears in the public records, especially in the deed books where his many land purchases are recorded. He sold all his Pennsylvania lands in 1765 and moved the family to the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. The Pennsylvania residence of John Lincoln included eight years at Coventry, eight years at Amity, seven years at some undetermined location, and nineteen years at Caernarvon.

The first home site of John Lincoln we are able to identify is established by a land warrant assigned to John Lincoln on October 9, 1746. It was for a tract of 50 acres located in Caernarvon Township, Lancaster County, and the assignment indicates that John Lincoln was then living in the township. Two years later he purchased a tract of 150 acres adjacent to the above land and bordering on the Schuylkill River for about one third of a mile. It fell within Robeson Township of Lancaster County.

The first record of John Lincoln thus far discovered is the date of his marriage which occurred on July 5, 1743. His wife was Rebecca Flowers Morris, the widow of James Morris, by whom she had one son. Her parents were Enoch and Rebecca Flowers who lived in Caernarvon Township, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Little is known about the Flowers family, except for the fact that Enoch was a Justice of the Peace in Caernarvon Township, where he must have resided. The fact that he and his wife are direct ancestors of President Lincoln would make any information about them important.

John Lincoln named his first three sons Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Two other sons, John and Thomas, and four daughters, Hannah, Lydia, Sarah, and Rebecca, made up the family.

Abraham Lincoln — Grandfather

One of the most important historical projects which might be undertaken by the Reading-Berks Bicentennial Committee, during this anniversary year, is the locating and marking of the site of the home where the President's grandfather, Abraham Lincoln, was born. It was this grandfather for whom the more illustrious Abraham Lincoln was named. It was the story of this grandfather's massacre by the Indians that the President remembered more vividly than any other story told to him in boyhood days by his father. To put it in the President's own words: "The story of his death by the Indians, and of Uncle Mordecai, then fourteen years old, killing one of the Indians, is the legend more strongly than all others imprinted on my mind and memory. I am the son of grandfather's youngest son, Thomas."

The massacre took place in the month of May, 1786, at Hughes Station in Kentucky about twenty miles east of Louisville. The pioneer was but forty-two years of age at the time of his death and he left a widow and five small children in the wilderness.

The parents of the Pennsylvania Abraham were married on July 5, 1743, and he was born the following year. It is known that on Oct. 9, 1746, when Abraham was two years old, his father bought the 50-acre tract in Caernarvon Township, Lancaster County and settled his family there. However, the exact place of Abraham's parents residence, at the time of his birth, has not been definitely established. Possibly John Lincoln may have gained possession of this fifty acre tract at the time of his marriage. If this be so then the President's grandfather lived the twenty-one years he resided in Pennsylvania in one location. The fifty-acre tract is located about one-half mile east of the present town of Birdsboro.

Baltimore Md. "Sun"
March 28th 1948 "Easter Sunday"
PAGE 14—Section A

Lincoln Landmark

SEVEN miles southwest of here READING, PA. is a low-roofed, thick-walled stone house that was the home of Abraham Lincoln's great-great-grandfather, Mordecai Lincoln, who was a prominent Eighteenth Century landowner and iron maker.

This home, built in 1732, is the oldest Lincoln landmark in the country. President Lincoln himself is quoted as saying his "great-great-grandfather was a Quaker who settled in Berks county, Pa." A story in the Mordecai Lincoln family has it that David Jones Lincoln, of Birdsboro, Pa., a descendant, angered at the slanders about Lincoln's birth during Civil War days, wrote a letter establishing the genealogy to the Lancaster (Pa.) *Intelligencer*. This was quickly picked up by Lincoln's supporting press and was later confirmed in detail by historians.

Descendants Come There

While it is not owned now by the Lincoln family, descendants often visit the house. This year, however, because of the two hundredth anniversary of the founding of Reading and Berks county by the Quakers, Thomas and Richard Penn, the first family reunion will be held there. About a score of Lincoln descendants will be at the reunion.

History relates that Mordecai Lincoln migrated to Pennsylvania from New Jersey in the early part of the Eighteenth Century. He first settled in Chester county, where he continued his trade as an iron maker. Later, he moved to Berks county.

Originally the gable end of the Lincoln home contained a stone with the inscription, "M. L.—1733," indicating the probable time of its erection.

Nestled in the lee of a hill, less than 2 miles from the Schuylkill

River, the homestead includes the original house and summer kitchen, and a barn and milk house which have since been built.

For the last 27 years, the 60-acre property has been owned and tenanted by Mr. and Mrs. John Hoffman.

They Find Old Ax

The Hoffman's haven't discovered any relics that belonged to old Mordecai, but several years ago they found the head of an old ax which could have been used by Lincoln or the Indians.

"My husband dug it out while plowing the field," Mrs. Hoffman said.

Evidence that Negro slaves worked for the man whose descendant would one day liberate their own progeny is found in numerous historical documents. One of them, an inventory of old Mordecai's estate, relates:

"Mordecai Lincoln, while possessed of more than 1,400 acres of land at his death, left a comparatively small estate. Nearly one fourth of his property was represented by two slaves. One of them, designated as "Negro Will," was appraised at £20, and the other designated as "Negro John for Seven Years," was valued at £10."

The appraisal is a quaint document in which the articles were grouped in such peculiar combinations as "a chest and looking glass, chairs and pewter, three guns and wooden ware, spinning wheels and iron pots, and a saddle, one bed and a trunk." An item of "smith tools valued at £2" indicated the pioneer's calling.

5740 Oxford Street
Phila., 31, Pa.

April 6, 1948

Dr. Louis Warren
Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne, Ind.

Dear Dr. Warren:

I thank you for your letter of April 5, and for its enclosure.

When I wrote to you last January, I mentioned that I was preparing some material for publication in Berks county newspapers, as a feature for the READING BICENTENNIAL. At that time the Lincolns in Berks held a family reunion, on Lincoln's birthday.

I am enclosing clippings of the articles which appeared in my column. For your enlightenment the column features all sorts of local lore, but it specializes in the rich traditions of the Pennsylvania Germans, the ethnic group which furnishes the backdrop for many good things in eastern Pennsylvania. The caption, SCHOLLA is a dialect term meaning ECHOES and my pen-name Der Ewige Yaeger, means literally, the eternal huntsman. Actually this mythical character still lives in the esoteric lore of our people and his origins revert to Wotan and his Valkyries. But this is not along the line of your interests.

I describe the column and its purposes in order that you may understand the light vein in which the sketches are written. You are quite free to use any part or to discard the idea, but, may I request that the clippings themselves be returned for they have been extracted from my files.

You may find more about me and my historical efforts as they are recorded in the 1947 volume of WHO'S WHO IN EDUCATION.

At my suggestion Mr. Raymond Kiebach, of Stony Creek Mills, Pennsylvania, promised to send on some Lincoln data which he offered in response to the SCHOLLA accounts.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Arthur H. Graeff

April 9, 1948

Mr. Arthur D. Graeff
5740 Oxford Street
Philadelphia, 31, Pennsylvania

My dear Mr. Graeff:

Thank you very much for allowing me to see the items
you have prepared on the Berks County Lincolns.

Although I have already acquired three of the
columns, I was glad to see the fourth one, and have read what
you say with interest.

Attached to the letter you will please find the
clippings you so kindly forwarded.

Very truly yours,

LAW:IEB
Enc.

Director

I have a Copy of Lincoln's patent & will give it to you - if you haven't it.
THANKS for your letter & info.

Winter Address—Until late June
7733 Mill Road
Elkins Park,
Philadelphia, Penna.

DAVID S KEISER

CAMP LENAPE FOR BOYS
POCONO MOUNTAINS
TAFTON - PIKE COUNTY - PENNA



June 9 1948

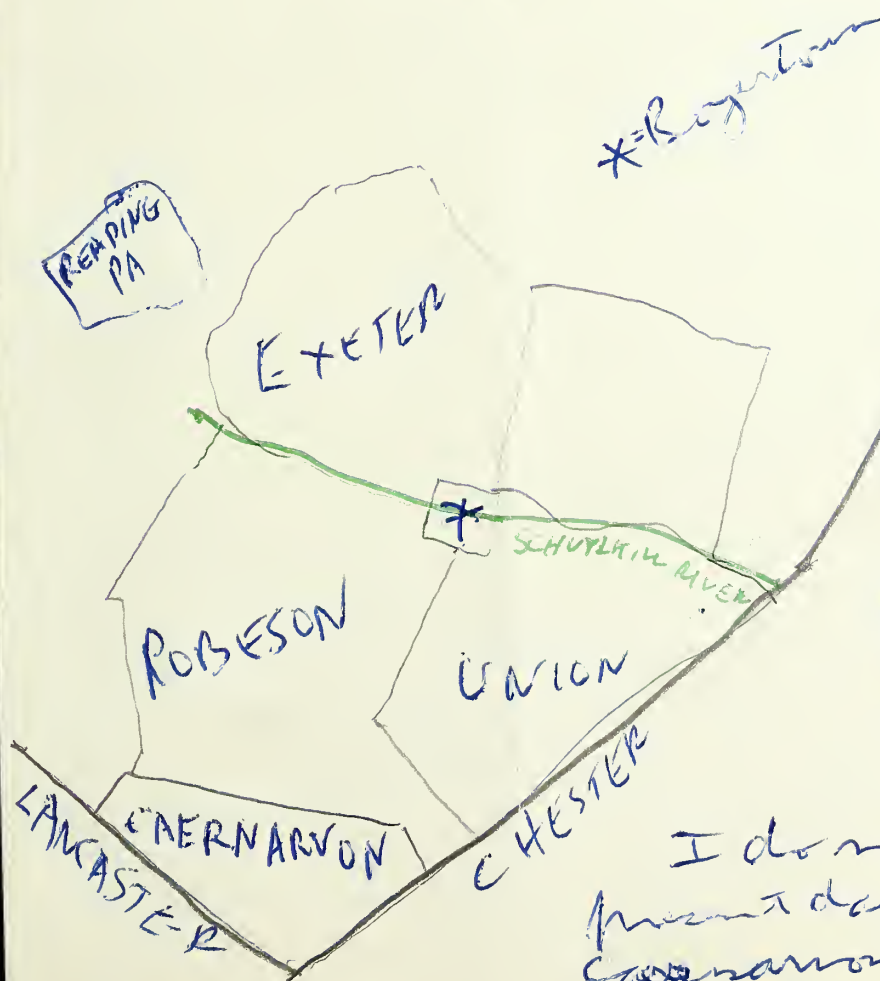
Dear Mr Warren, Am too busy now for much research BUT I have seen so many other errors I just wonder how correct the assertions (in #986) are in ~~case~~ talk of Caernarvon township, Lancaster County & Robeson Township, Lanc. Co. Here's a tracing of Berks Co from MONTGOMERY'S book on Berks County history.

Lincoln's grandfather was born in THEN Phila County. Later Berks Co was carved - from Lancaster Co. on one side of Schuylkill & from Phila Co. on other side of Schuylkill. - About 1752, if I remember correctly.

sincerely,
David Keiser

P.S. I see you mention of Lanc Co WERE PRE-1752 over.

I do not know whether present day Lancaster Co have Caernarvon + Robeson townships. Doubt it. *where can I get young LINCOLN remarks on G Washington?*



January 3, 1949

Mr. David S. Keiser
7733 Mill Road
Elkins Park
Philadelphia, 17, Pa.

My dear Mr. Keiser:

I regret the name of Reading does not appear on my schedule but I am really giving the time allotted me to Philadelphia for this speech and the engagement had to be confirmed out of the Philadelphia office which is my headquarters during the period noted on the bulletin.

I have not had any instructions yet with respect to my engagements in Philadelphia. If you will be willing to write to Mr. Byron Pace, 2140 Lincoln-Liberty Building, Philadelphia, he can advise you what my engagements are. Possibly, it would be convenient for me to address some club you might suggest to him, however, he has my complete schedule.

We are happy indeed to send Lincoln Lore to Mrs. Raymond Shetter as you suggest in your letter. Copies of Lincoln Lore and the Index go to you under separate cover.

Very truly yours,

Director

LAW:CM
L.A. Warren

JAMES R. KEISER
DAVID S KEISER

CAMP LENAPE FOR BOYS
POCONO MOUNTAINS
TAFTON - PIKE COUNTY - PENNA



7733 Mill Rd
Elkins Park,
Phila. 17, Pa.

Dear Dr. Warren,

Tho your printed itinerary in Lincoln Lore #1025 doesn't carry the honored name of Reading, Pa. - I understand you speak there about ~~Feb~~ Feb. 18th. I was born and raised in Rdg - and may or may not get there that night. Having seen in The ANNALS OF OLEY VALLEY, by Rev. Croll, the grandiloquent statement that this - the posthumous son of Mondecai - "Abraham Lincoln was the one who journeyed to Independence Hall (from Berks Co.) to deliver the address of thanks to Gen. Geo. Washington after the Revolution."

The two men who spread the statement - or rather the 3 men - were all dead - Shearer, Learned, Croll or its equivalent (Croll being 95) - so I had to dig and dig to get at the story. I finally succeeded, and altho there is a lot of bunk in the above statement GEO WASHINGTON & ABRAHAM LINCOLN did formally shake hands on that occasion before eleven witnesses. I have written up the story - and await word from a magazine whether they'll print it or not. A most symbolic handshake, eh!

How could I contact you in Philly Feb 18th to 23rd. I'll attend 12.15 PM the City Business Club luncheon at the Bellevue Stratford Friday, Feb. 18 (unless I drive to Rdg for your speech there) and I'll attend the Phila Optimist Club meeting Tuesday, Feb 23rd 12.30 PM at the Adelphi Hotel 13th & Chestnut Sts. Philly. I hope I can take you to one of those meetings as a guest - AND if forsooth, it can be arranged I would be glad to try to get you before them as a speaker, if you advise me there is a chance you can make either.

I have mislaid a slip asking for \$2.00 the other day. Please send me another slip for a friend. I enclose my check for \$2.00. I only have a few Lincoln Lore. These are those I Have (NOT THOSE I WANT).

357	549	1004	1011	1022
385		1005	1012	1023
426	621	1006	1013	1024
428	788	1007	1014	1025
429		1008	1015	
481	943	1009	1016	
494	954	1010	1021	
	986			

I want any not-mentioned ones U may care to send.

SINCERELY OURS.

David S Keiser

Could Lincoln Lore be sent to

Mrs Raymond Shetter
114 Strathmore St
Brookline
Havertown
PA

OVER

Miss Minnie A. Yeich lives within a $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of the Lincoln homestead.
Her address RD 1 Birdsboro, Pa.

She can tell you of a former cemetery on the Lincoln tract - of a former home, vintage 1851, etc - and doubts that the little homestead was really lived in by Mordecai II. He had a son, Mordecai III.

She has a phone, probably under Birdsboro. I'm not sure of phone. She may attend your ~~XXXXXXXX~~ Reading luncheon.

She has in her possession various Lincoln deeds etc. When she read in HOLIDAY recently that the Mormons were the first Anglo-piles to utilize irrigation in No. America - she wrote Holiday about the irrigation agreement she has - between Mordecai sons et. al.

Nobody else in Rdg (so far as I know) has any challenge for you.

Mr Howard Lincoln of the LINCOLN RESTAURANT on route 422 between Rdg and Pottstown - near the homestead recently named his third son Abraham Thomas Lincoln, aged 6 mos. I know of no other A. Lincoln of to-da Do you?

One of the papers signed by Mordecai (Lincoln's gret-great) was witnessed by "Mary Rogers" Maybe she was the "Mary Robeson" who became Mord's 2nd wife. If you have any portable autographs of Mary Robeson Lincoln - I'd appreciate it, - for comparison of penmanship.

X Lehigh County is more Dutch than Berks County.
In Berks they say "Birdsboro" but in Lehigh they talk of "Fogelsville"

138 N. Spruce Street
Birdsboro, Pennsylvania

April 3, 1949.

Dr. Louis A. Warren.

Hort Wayne, Indiana

My dear Dr. Warren,

Thank you very much for
the booklets on the Pennsylvania
Lincolns. I shall enjoy every one
of them. If any developments on
the Lincolns of my immediate
area take place, I shall surely
advise you. You definitely created
interest on your visit to Reading.
Everyone is enthusiastic about
your talk at our dinner.

I am

Sincerely,

Edna M. Hendrick.

Reading Pa Nov 30-1951

Dear Sir

I am a direct decendent of
Mordeica Sinceln great great
grand father of Abraham
Sinceln. I was born about
4 miles from the Sinceln
home stead in Exeter Township
Berks Co Pa. Every August
we have a Sinceln Reunion
on what was part of the Sinceln
home stead. Last August we
had as a guest at our reunion
Dr Arthur Graeff he gave us
a nice talk about the Sincelns
he writes a Colm in the
Reading Times Adella Scholla
(Echo) he writes about Penna
Dutch Folk lore. I have some
very old books.

These books once belonged
to Abraham Lincoln youngest
son of Mordecai Lincoln

There are some account books
of things bought and sold
on the farm and saw mill
of this Abraham Lincoln.

I also have his books in which
he worked out his arithmetic
problems and also have
a book of the public sale
of his farm stock and
other things. giving the

names of those who bought
these articles and their price.

This sale was held after his
death in 1806. I also have

the school books of his
son grand son and great
grand son Alfred Lincoln

Who was my grand father
 these books date back to 1761
 Dr Arthur Dreiff saw these
 books. and said I should
 write and tell you about
 them and also ask for
 Lincoln Sore. he did not get much
 time to tell me much about
 Lincoln Sore or just what it
 was as they kept him pretty
 busy. Hoping to hear from
 you and Lincoln Sore.

I remain Yours Truly

Carl S Ruppert

1458 N Front St

Reading Pa

P.S My grand father and
 President Abraham Lincoln
 wer 3rd Cousins.

Ben Lincoln

December 7, 1951

Mr. Earl L. Ruppert
1458 N. Front Street
Reading, Pennsylvania

My dear Mr. Ruppert:

You will please find under separate cover some little bulletins I am sending on the Lincoln family in which I think you will be interested. Also, a copy of Lincoln Lore which mentions one of the Pennsylvania Lincolns related to you.

I am pleased indeed to know that you have kept some of Mordecai Lincoln data and hope you will see that it is well preserved. So many of these historical documents have been lost or destroyed.

We are placing your name on our mailing list to receive Lincoln Lore which we send with our compliments.

Very truly yours,

LAW:JM
L.A. Warren

Director

Reading Pa Dec 1951

Dear Dr Warren

Received three copies of The
Lincoln Kinsman also Lincoln
Soul I sure was glad to get
those Books. Thanks very
much. I have read the
Pa Lincolns. The Books
which I have over the property
of Abraham the Posthumous
son of Mordecai Lincoln.
In these Books I find many
names which are in the book
which you send me. One of
these Books is a list of
the sale of his Personal Property
after his death in 1806.
there I find the names of
many Boons. I have an aunt
Bertha Lincoln Widow of

Harry Boon. she works at
 The Lincoln Diner on the
 Philadelphia Pike near the
 Lincoln Homestead. Many of
 the Sincolns of Exeter are
 buried at the Exeter Friends
 Meeting house which is still
 standing and in good repair
 the last Lincoln to be buried
 there was my great grand
 father John D Sincoln in 1895
 This meeting house is only a
 few blocks from the Birth
 place of Daniel Boon. In 1948
 I loaned three books to the
 Historical Society of Berks Co
 there some local historians
 looked over the books. there
 they found the name Joseph
 Hank

and here they come to the conclusion that the ancestors of President Lincoln's mother might have come from Berks Co. Pa here is what they had to say in a local paper. Early records of Berks Co show that a Joseph Hank lived in Reading from 1752 to 1759 and that a man of the same name was registered as a tax payer in Exeter Township home of the Sincolns during the years 1779 to 1783 but that the name did not appear on the tax list after that these facts about Joseph Hank are included in a paper read by the late Harry S. Kantner a keen student of Lincoln history at a meeting of the Historical Society

of Berks Co in Nov 1924

But the little ledger loaned to the society by Ruppert is we believe the first known to contain any tie up of the names of Hannah and Lincoln in at least a business relationship the first time the name of Hannah appears is in connection with the purchase of two bushels of wheat for 9 Shillings four Pence on Jan 29 - 1766.

No less than 15 times did Joseph Hannah have dealings with this early Abraham Lincoln the account books disclose.

This first Abraham Lincoln was a half brother to John Lincoln who led the members of the Berks Co group south ward

In 1768 since the transactions of Hank with the Sineola family took place 2 years before this trek from Exeter Township one might imagine that there was plenty of calves among these early Berks Countians and they did business together regarding the great possibilities which could open up for a man moving into that new wilderness to the south and west. It is also interesting to note that Mill County records according to Koutner account for the whereabouts of Joseph Hank during certain years the ledger owned by Ruppert definitely establish that the two families knew each other

during the years which
historians have not been able to
account for as far as the Hank
family is concerned.

It will be as true that Thomas
Lincoln father of the President
lived in Kentucky and that
his wife came from Wilco-Co
in that state. It could be
reasonable to believe that
the same word of emigration
that carried some of the
Lincoln family from Exeter
Township in Berks Co to
Virginia and the back woods
of Kentucky could also have
swept along the Hank Family.
Thanking you again I remain
Truly Yours Carl S Ruppert
1458 North front St Reading
(Over) Phil

I have some time getting this
letter in the mail the
Holidays kept me up quite
a lot the baby Abraham
Lincoln on the news paper
clipping is a grand son
of my Cousin.

I sure was glad to
get those books. And
I can not explain how
much I appreciate them
Thanks again.

Carl S. Ruppert

Abraham Lincoln Baby Born in Reading Hospital

Royersford, Dec. 4 ¹⁹⁵¹ Announcement was made of the birth of a son to Sergt. and Mrs. Harvey A. Lincoln, in Reading Hospital recently.

The father, son of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey T. Lincoln, Lower Lewis Road, Royersford R. D. 1, is stationed with the U. S. Air Corps in Japan. The mother formerly was Miss Catherine Deets, Laureldale.

Descendants of Abraham Lincoln, Civil War president, the Lincolns planned to name the baby Abraham, the middle name of his father, Sergt. Harvey Abraham Lincoln.

Sergeant Lincoln, a veteran of World War II, reenlisted in 1941, and has been in Japan since April.

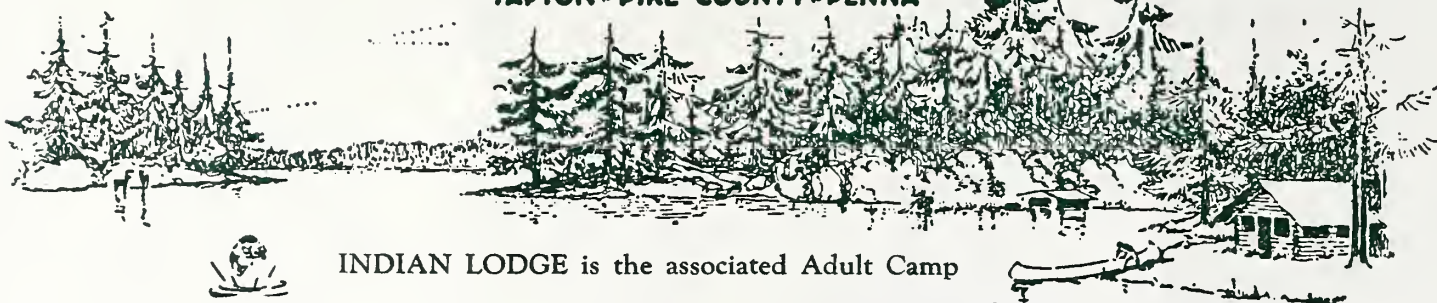
Henry J. Prices to Rise

Washington, Dec. 4 (U.P.) — The Office of Price Stabilization today authorized retail ceiling price increases of \$80 to \$88.09 for Henry J. passenger automobiles produced by the Kaiser-Frazer Corporation.

DAVID S KEISER

CAMP LENAPE FOR BOYS
POCONO MOUNTAINS
TAFTON - PIKE COUNTY - PENNA

Winter Address—Until late June
7733 Mill Road
Elkins Park,
Philadelphia 17, Penna.



INDIAN LODGE is the associated Adult Camp

Nov 10 1953

Dear Dr. Warren,

Regarding Lincoln's ancestors - were any Berks Co, ones Quakers.

The first 200 burials in the Exeter Meeting Cemetery in Oley Valley are unrecorded. No one has ever proven that Mordecai Lincoln was buried there. It is merely surmised. (Pls correct me on any wrong statement or implication)

As my wife and sons are Quakers - tho I am not - I will later consult authorities on whether in olden times Quaker cemeteries were available for non-Quaker burials. **BUT** —

Mordecai had a distinguished posthumous son, Abrah^{am} Lincoln of Berks Co.. He once thanked G. Washington for his services to "the growing empire" Leaned was way wrong in his version in a footnote in his THE LINCOLNS, a Migratory Family - or something. This Revolutionary War A. Lincoln did not make a speech - but carried a letter.

This Berks Abe Lincoln, the presid^{ant}'s great grand-uncle married Anne Boone and was made to sweat for 13 months. ~~for~~ His wife was accused of a disorderly act in marrying him. After 13 months she admitted her "error" and it was "condoned" - and this was one Mr & Mrs A. Lincoln that actually lived to a happy old age, 70 each.

It is on record that Abraham Lincoln (& wife) are both buried in Exeter Cemetery - tho A. Lincoln was not a Quaker. Perhaps his dad^{Mordecai} was buried there too.

Just recently I have looked over the ^{known} membership of Exeter Meeting - and there are no LINCOLNS at all thereon.

There's no doubt of it, another Republican president has some ancestors buried in that Oley Valley cemetery. In case I don't know it - the name ~~is not~~ of the President is D.D. Eisenhower.

Sincerely,

David Keiser

I have never found any indications that Lincoln's ancestors were Quakers tho many of his ancestors had bros, sisters and 1st cousins to marry Boones, Yarnalls, etc & maybe even his granddad orig. married a Boone like my childhood encyclopædia says,. Thus A.L. knew his family was somewhat Quaker tinged



Camp Lenape : Tafton, Pike County, Penna.

Indian Lodge is the associated Lake-front Hotel

7733 Mill Rd Phila 17 Pa Nov 8, 1955

Dear Dr. Warren,

I have dug up some most interesting information about Lincoln's great, great grandfather, Enoch Flower. In all my findings the name is singular - Flower - not Flowers like you mention in the Lincoln Kinsman #24 June 1940.

You might drop me the enclosed card ~~re~~ stating whether your resources show it as Flowers or Flower - not that the difference necessarily is critical.

You and I once dined together at the Abraham Lincoln Hotel in Reading, Pa. - and I talked to you briefly at ~~the~~ your City Business Club speech at Bellevue Strafford this year. We also visited the Berks Co. Historical Society together in Reading Pa.

Send me another copy of Number 24 THE PENNA LINCOLNS if U have one - and bill me for it. I'll send remittance by return mail.

Sincerely,

David S. Keiser

David S. Keiser



Camp Lenape : Tafton, Pike County, Penna.

Indian Lodge is the associated Lake-front Hotel

7733 Mill Rd Phila 17, Pa. Dec 29 1955

Dear Dr. Warren

If you ever re-write #34 of the The Lincoln Kinsman, Je 1940 on the Pa. Lincolns you might correct your scandalous wedding date of John Lincoln and Rebecca Flowers as given on page 7 (39th line) ~~and page 8 xxxxxxxx~~ July 5th 1744. On page 6 you state correctly that their son A. Lincoln was born ~~xxxxxx~~ May 13, 1744, several months earlier. A shotgun wedding? You avergaed things off by giving another wrong date of the wedding July 5 1742 on page 5 line 15. Waldo L. gives the date as 1743.

On the 2nd paragraph of Page 3 you indicate Mordecai Lincoln was a member of the Society of Friends. He wasn't. I sent you the estimate of a Quaker historian on that. After studying the minutes of the Exeter Meeting - I can state definitely none of Lincoln ancestors were members thereof.

Another error - on Page 6 3rd paragraph you state "At the close of ~~the~~ the Revolution ^{his} AL ---- was selected to make the address to Gen ~~Washington~~ Washington at Phila." How LEARNED (& Shearer) could create such applesauce is beyond me. With nothing to go on - I studied Shearer's life, decided what books he had read, and actually got the whole story - and correctly! A.L. did meet GW on a certain definite date. He wasn't the leader of the group, and very strangely one of the 11 men ~~with~~ with him was one Wm. Todd. I figure out this Lincoln and this Todd were great grand uncles of Mr & Mrs A.L. of the Wt House. These 12 men carried a letter to GW and I have a copy of the letter.

On the occasion ~~a~~ six yrs ago of dining with you in lonely splendor in the A.L. Hotel in Reading, Pa, I tendered you the results of my research (for fun) and was flabbergasted to have you refuse to look at it. It was well documented and photostated.

Yesterday I located 2 more great, great, great grandparents* of Pres. Lincoln. One definitely was a Quaker and the other was a Barnard. (* meaning grandfathers)

Both lived in Pa. I don't have the information at hand as it is being photostated for me.

Couldn't a Lincoln Lore sheet be used to tell the sure enough members ^{to date} of the Lincoln family tree. (His grandmother's name seems to change from decade to decade, for instance). If you do publish it I'll attest that it seems definite that Enoch Flowers was actually Enoch Flower. FLOWER is the way it seems spelt by him and his collateral relatives some of whom were celebrities - in England and in the U.S..

OVER

In addition to the 2 new ancestors I am now sure of, I expect to later on add the name of Morris to Lincoln's ancestors. (I don't mean James Morris, ~~either~~)
or his relations

Sincerely,

David Keiser

Shearer mentioned above was the Dartmouth librarian who provided Learned with the excuse for havinf A.L. speak before GW.

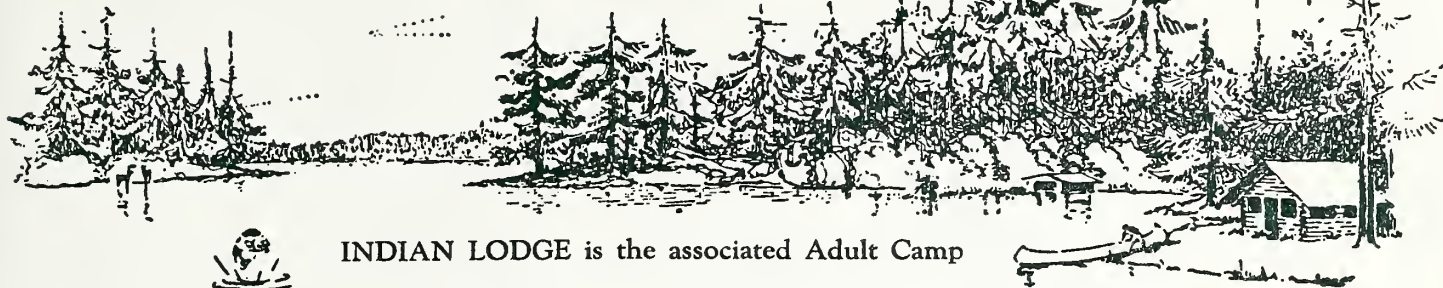
Incidentally Learned's son and Shearer's widow couldn't help in spotting the derivation of the story. Mrs. Shearer never even heard of it.

(If you answer the above - just skip (ignore) the first 3/4ths thereof.

DAVID S KEISER

CAMP LENAPE FOR BOYS
POCONO MOUNTAINS
TAFTON - PIKE COUNTY - PENNA

Winter Address—Until late June
7733 Mill Road
Elkins Park
Philadelphia 17, Penna.



INDIAN LODGE is the associated Adult Camp

2-5-56

Dear Dr. Warren,

I wrote you a letter a mo. or so ago in which I may have asked some questions. Ignore the questions and suggestions.

If I recall properly I mentioned a few errors in your Lincoln Kinsman #24. Another error may be your statement that "Enoch Flower was a justice of the peace living in Caernarvon township". At least I haven't come across THAT yet. Waldo Lincoln, I think, describes him as a yeoman.

On Page 5 U ask about Samuel Flower of Caernarvon Township. He was an iron worker, a son in law of Wm. Branson who I seem to recall as having been ^{once} in cahoots with Mord. Lincoln in iron working. I have before me several examples of Flower stoves - with the Flower name. on. HOWEVER no Samuel was closely related to Enoch Flower & Rebecca Flower.

Believe it or not, one historian came so close - and yet so far - from connecting the Flowers with Pres. Lincoln by writing in the eighteen seventies as follows. And I quote it as it seems to be confirmation (from another & earlier source) what Waldo Lincoln got from a copy of a lost document:--

"Enoch Flower & Rebecca were married in 1713 and had 3 daughters: Elizabeth, m. Samuel Oaks: Rebecca, m. a Lincoln: Mary, m. Richard Anderson!"

↑ ↑

After having found an error or two in your Kinsman #24 - I wish to state that your statement therein that ENOCH & REBECCA FLOWERS were ancestors of A. Lincoln was the springboard for me of making a lot of discoveries concerning Lincoln's family tree - some of which are sensational. Speaking of errors - it definitely is FLOWER - not FLOWERS. One of these days I'll send U a bouquet of FLOWERS.

15 yrs ago I discovered to my amazement that when the Lincolns moved into the Oley Valley - "already yet" there were 5 sets of my ancestors there to greet them - so I got interested in his family's life there - trying to ascertain 2 things - did my ancestors have contacts with them - they didn't that I can find - altho I know they must have had - and did Lincoln have Quaker ancestors - and whom.

The plot thickens!

Sincerely,

David S Keiser

LINCOLN'S PHILADELPHIA KIN

The Abraham Lincoln whose advertisement for the return of a runaway slave was reprinted in last month's Official Records was indeed kinfolk to the Emancipator, our genealogist member Dave Keiser said in a letter to the editor. At the same time Dr. Harold Trachtman showed some interesting documents relating to Springfield, Pennsylvania's Abraham Lincoln.

The Abraham Lincoln who lived in Chester county in 1730 was the great-great-granduncle of the President, said Mr. Keiser, and he had the unique honor of being Abraham Lincoln number one. His dad, Mordecai Lincoln, of Massachussetts, had married a daughter of one Abraham Jones, of Hingham, Mass. The first son of this marriage was named Mordecai, Jr., for his father. The second son was named Abraham for his maternal grandfather, "thus coining", in the words of Mr. Keiser, "for the first time, the magic couplet--ABRAHAM LINCOLN."

This very first Abraham Lincoln was born in Massachussetts, lived a while in New Jersey, and died in Pennsylvania in 1745. He was the brother of President Lincoln's great-great-grandfather Mordecai, who lived (and also owned slaves) in the Oley Valley, seven miles this side of Reading, Pa. Both Lincoln brothers, Mr. Keiser added, were iron workers.

When Abraham Lincoln the first died, his will was recorded in Philadelphia County, and Dr. Trachtman has a photostat of the document and papers relating to it. The will is written in beautiful Colonial script, and is signed in hentracks, "Abraham Lincon". It is spelled the same way in the body of the will and in other papers, but correctly, "Lincoln", on the will's cover.

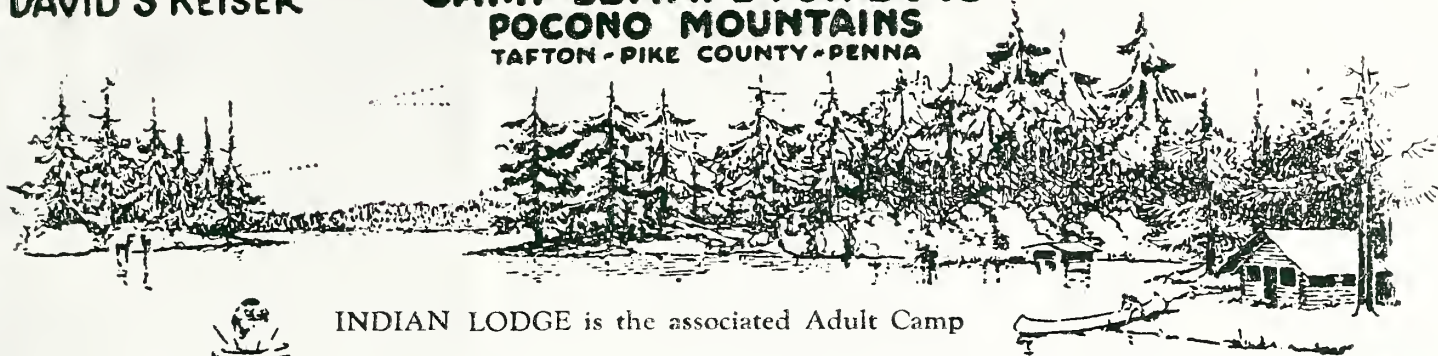
Abraham left all of his property to his five sons and two daughters, and named as his executors two friends who lived in Marple and in Ridley, Chester county. The estate was sizable. It included his "plantation" with six horses, 24 head of cattle, seventeen sheep and eight lambs. He also owned two properties in Philadelphia. In his assets was listed "One Negro Man", valued at twenty pounds, who may have been Jack, "with a Scar by the corner of one Eye, in the form of a V." Among his creditors we see the name of one "Benj: Franklin", who wanted three shillings. Franklin was still in the printing business in 1745.

In his will Abraham called himself a blacksmith.

Dr. Trachtman received his photostats from a friend of his, Charles E. Hughes, who is the City Archivist of Philadelphia.

DAVID S KEISER

CAMP LENAPE FOR BOYS
POCONO MOUNTAINS
TAFTON - PIKE COUNTY - PENNA



INDIAN LODGE is the associated Adult Camp

7733 Mill Rd PHILA 17 Pa
May 28 1960

Dear Dr. McMurtry,

Had a cut recently made (for no particular reason - as an extra section of a gang cut) of these 2 Lincoln bros. of Reading, Pa. - both born on the Lincoln farm at Exeter, Pa.

The hatted one is Richard G. Lincoln - the one previously sent. I was amazed as a kid - when I glimpsed him (unhatted) on his front stoop - amazed how much he looked like Lincoln - ere I knew that Lincoln had relatives in Reading, Pa.. Took me six months to find out who he was. His brother ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ is Alfred Lincoln.

Somewhere I picked up the info that Richard was 6'2" & Alfred 6' 3"

The orig. picture of the 2 Lincolns - showed both unhatted. I thereupon cut off the head and hat of Richard in the first picture I sent U - and pasted it onto the face of Richard himself - as it looked more like Abe than the one underneath.

The picture I eventually saw in the newspaper (on Feb 12 - about 1908) looked just as much like Lincoln as the one I have. The family never picked up the other - taken by a newspaper photographer. I had a job picking up any picture several decades later.

For past favors - you may use it - but only yourself - may not farm out until 1963. If U use it - which I don't imagine U will - U might add it was given you by one David S. Keiser, who is collecting pictures of Lincoln's relatives and (get this) books on his genealogy. (If I land any books - anyhow - I have other interested parties who need them for real research they are doing, too)

U needn't answer this.

Sincerely,

Richard G. Lincoln --- John D. Lincoln -- Thomas Lincoln - Abe & Ann Boone Lincoln - Mordecai Lincoln and second wife, probably Mary Robeson.

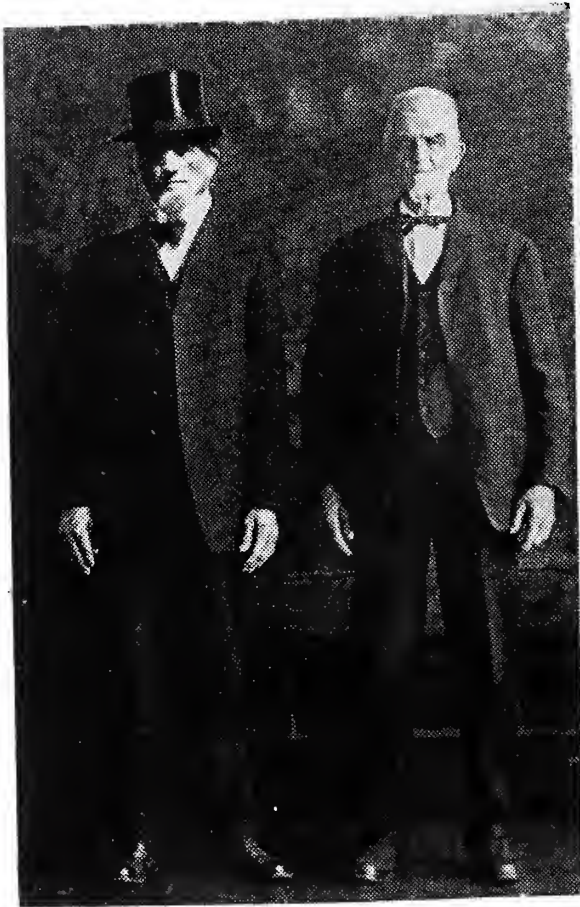
The Pres. came down from Mordecai Lincoln & Hannah Salter

Mordecai was the one who died about 1735 - Had a dad and son also named Mordecai

Doesn't Richard look like Sam?

These men were cousins to A. Lincoln and D. Boone

of Exeter, Pa.



ab's 3rd cousins,

June 2, 1960

Mr. David S. Keiser
7733 Mill Road
Philadelphia 17, Pennsylvania

Dear Mr. Keiser:

I have your letter of May 28 along with the photograph of the two men that you have labeled "Abe's 3rd cousins".

I have read your letter with interest and I was glad to have the opportunity of looking at the interesting picture of Lincoln's cousins.

Yours sincerely,

RGMcMurtry:pj

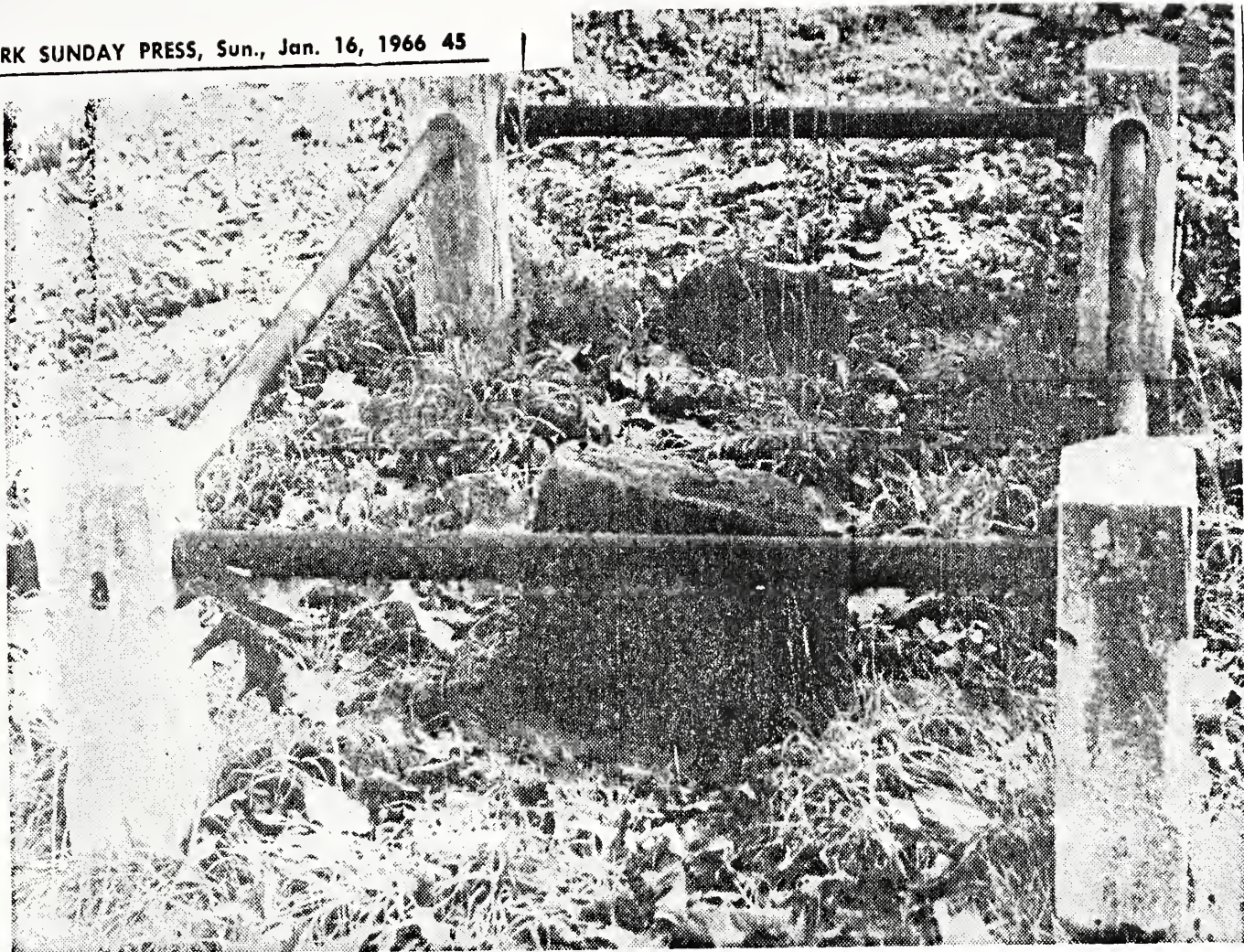
Director

Clinton N.Y. Oct 8 1964

Dear Mr. Davis,

A few weeks ago, Mr. Berrien gave me some photos taken by you from my farm and the Burrying Ground on the top of the hill. We are very pleased that you had sent them for us and we want to thank you ever so much. I remember you very well but at the time I had been very busy. I do not know if anyone had told you. At that time you were here, that the State of New Jersey is buying about 6000 Acres for the Green Acres, in order to preserve the Natural Heritage. Land & Water will be conserved for public parks. This farm where we resided for 25 years will also be bought, and the Burrying place for little Deborah Lincoln will without doubt be preserved what it deserves so much. Thanks again

With best wishes your M. Schickel



Grave of Deborah Lincon whose parents were great-great grandparents of Abraham Lincoln.

THE VIEW OUTDOORS

Hunter Finds 'Lincon' Family Grave

By PETE MCLAIN

Walking through the woods not far from the village of Cream Ridge in western Monmouth County, we came suddenly upon a cemetery. At first glance it appeared to be a small family cemetery, similar to the family burial grounds on the old farms throughout this area. But, on closer inspection, it appeared that over 200 people had been buried in this out-of-the-way spot.

The area is located on the top of a small hill, and its only connection with the hard road is a grown-up path which is barely discernible due to the growth of tree-size oaks and pines. The remains of an old fence still surround the cemetery, and some withered flowers, the tattered remnants of the American flag, and broken pottery around several graves attest to some attention during the past decade or so.

Finds a 'Lincon' Grave

Of particular interest was one grave located almost in the center of the cemetery which read, "Deborah Lincon (sic) . . . 3Y-4M . . . May 15, 1720." The gravestone measured about 18 inches by 24 inches, and is of the typical fieldstone which is found in the local area. The carving on the stone was not of professional quality, but the printing was clearly discernible.

The small grave was surrounded by a rail guard which appeared to have been erected sometime after the burial. We searched several of the other gravestones in the local area, but none bore the name Lincon. It is possible that there were others, as many stones had been upset or fallen over.

Several times in the past we have heard reports that

relatives of President Abraham Lincoln had resided in western Monmouth County, but not being particularly historical-minded, we paid scant attention. The present turn of events kindled an interest, and we made a superficial check at a couple of local libraries.

Spelling Not Unusual

The area is known as the Covell Hill Cemetery, and is not far from the Lincoln Forge at Fillmore. The grave of Deborah Lincon was that of a child who was three years and four months old, and died on May 15, 1720. She was the daughter of Mordecai and Hannah Lincon, who were the great-great-grandparents of President Lincoln. The discrepancy in the spelling is evidently not unusual, as the name Lincoln has been spelled three ways: Lincoln, Lincon, and Linkhorn.

There is little doubt that Deborah Lincoln was the great-great aunt of Abraham. The first Lincoln, Samuel, came from England in 1637 and settled in Hingham, Mass. His grandson, Mordecai, married Hannah Salter, who was the daughter of Richard Salter who owned over 1,000 acres of the countryside called "Buck Horn" around Cream Ridge. The Lincoln family later moved to Pennsylvania and finally to Illinois.

The grave of Deborah Lincoln was reportedly moved from its original resting place at the Yellow Meeting House cemetery to the Covell Hill Cemetery at the insistence of her grandfather, Richard Salter. There appears no logical reason for moving the grave.

No doubt local historians have a wealth of information on the subject, which can be ferreted out by those with a greater curiosity than ours.

Lincoln's Pennsylvania Ancestry Traced by Elkins Park Scholar

By ERMA PERRY

"Abraham Lincoln *did* have Quaker ancestors, and they lived right here in Pennsylvania," according to Lincoln scholar David S. Keiser of 7733 Mill road, Elkins Park.

Three times in his writings, Lincoln referred to his Quaker ancestors.

He wrote that his "ancestors who were Quakers, went to Virginia from Berks County, Pennsylvania." Again he said, "the family were originally Quakers, though in later times they have fallen away from the peculiar habits of that people." On March 6, 1848, he wrote, "We have a vague tradition, that my great-grandparents were Quakers and went from Pennsylvania to Virginia."

But for years, genealogists and historians "have found no known drop of Quaker blood in Abraham Lincoln."

"I was at a neighbor's house here in Elkins Park one day when I picked up this book," Keiser, who at one time taught in the Engineering School of the University of Pennsylvania, fingered a book. It was called "Annals of the Oley Valley" by P. C. Croll, D. D.

This old book covers two hundred years of family histories in a seven mile area which is now near Reading in Berks County. Here the Lincolns, the Boones (Daniel) and David Keiser's own ancestors lived.

"I was curious to see if the Boones and the Lincolns had any dealings with my family," said Keiser, formerly director

of Camp Lenape (for boys) in the Poconos.

"So I started digging. I found that John Lincoln married a former Rebecca Flower. John Lincoln was the Great Emancipator's great grandfather. Then I remembered seeing a plaque on a store at 234 S. Front st., Philadelphia.

"The store has been torn down now, and who knows what has become of the plaque? But this commemorated an Enoch Flower, the first schoolmaster appointed by William Penn in Pennsylvania in 1683. Like Penn, he was a Quaker. Could there be a connection?"

So David Keiser delved into the records of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. He found that Enoch Flower brought a minute from the Brinksworth Meeting in Wiltshire, England, to the Philadelphia Monthly Meeting. Born in 1635 and dying in 1684, he was one of the first settlers in Pennsylvania.

When he died, apparently without children, he owned 2,000 acres of land, some in Philadelphia around Broad st. and Erie av., some in Bucks County and some in Chester County.

The land in Chester County went to what is assumed to be his nephew, William, and his two children, Enoch and Mary Flower.

So Keiser went to the Swarthmore College library and searched the Quaker records on microfilm. He found that William's son, Enoch, had a daughter, Rebecca, who

married John Lincoln. They lived in Berks County and later moved to Virginia.

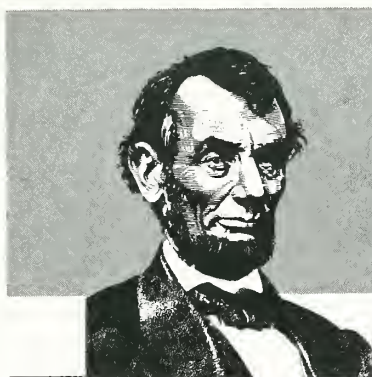
Here was the missing link. All these years, Abraham Lincoln was right and the historians were wrong. He did have Quaker ancestors.

For in the records of Concord Meeting in Concordville, near Media, Keiser found that Rebecca's father and mother were married under the care of Concord Meeting in 1713. And Rebecca's maternal and paternal grandparents were married under the care of Friends Meetings here and in England.

John and Rebecca Lincoln had nine children. They named three of them Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Their son, Abraham, was killed by the Indians while he was plowing his fields in 1786. He was the grandfather of the assassinated pres-

ident. His son was Thomas the father of Lincoln.

"Yes," said David S. Keiser, who is now writing a book on the Kennedy-Lincoln parallels, "Abraham Lincoln was right. And of his 11 now-known ancestors in Pennsylvania, six were Quakers and one was Quaker-bred. Most were named Barnard and Flower. And among the descendants of these Quakers are a President, a Senator, two Pennsylvania gubernatorial nominees, several generals, including General Smedley Darlington Butler, cabinet officers, professional people and a lot of prominent present-day Quakers."



Lincoln Lore

Bulletin of The Lincoln National Life Foundation . . . Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry, Editor
Published each month by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, Fort Wayne, Indiana

Number 1554

FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

August, 1967

INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

MARCH 4, 1865.

FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN: At this second appearing to take the oath of the presidential office, there is less occasion for an extended address than there was at the first. Then, a statement, somewhat in detail, of a course to be pursued, seemed fitting and proper. Now, at the expiration of four years, during which public declarations have been constantly called forth on every point and phase of the great contest which still absorbs the attention and engrosses the energies of the nation, little that is new could be presented. The progress of our arms, upon which all else chiefly depends, is as well known to the public as to myself; and it is, I trust, reasonably satisfactory and encouraging to all. With high hope for the future, no prediction in regard to it is ventured.

On the occasion corresponding to this four years ago, all thoughts were anxiously directed to an impending civil war. All dreaded it—all sought to avert it. While the inaugural address was being delivered from this place, devoted altogether to *saving* the Union without war, insurgent agents were in the city seeking to *destroy* it without war—seeking to dissolve the Union, and divide effects, by negotiation.

Monaghan 600

One of the rarest and most valuable publications in all Lincolniana is listed in Jay Monaghan's *Lincoln Bibliography 1839-1939*, Volume 1, page 149, under the number 600. The caption title of the three page folder is *Inaugural Address, March 4, 1865*. The copy in the Foundation's collection measures 9 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". These measurements vary somewhat from the copy in the Illinois State Historical Library.

Copies of this rare publication are to be found in the Lilly Library of Indiana University (formerly the property of Foreman M. Lebold), Library of Congress (2 copies), Goodspeed's Book Shop (likely 2 copies), Lincoln National Life Foundation, Illinois State Historical Library, Harvard University, Brown University, and in the private libraries of Carl Haverlin, Philip D. Sang, Thomas Wentworth Streeter (possibly 2 copies) which are being sold by Parke-Bernet and H. Bradley Martin. Perhaps thirteen or fourteen copies of this publication are extant.

An explanation of the rarity of Monaghan 600 has been advanced by Carl Haverlin of Northridge, California, one of the owners of an original copy:

"If you would like one of my famous intuitive bibliographical hunches in relation to the piece you write about I'll say that I think the rarity of the 2nd Inaugural results from the fact it was never printed for general distribution but as a press handout only. That is to say I think it may have been limited by the size of the press corps to 100 copies or less. I have no fact to back up this assumption. But if I'm not right why is the 1st Inaugural relatively common?"

The Haverlin copy is described by the owner:

"A few more words to support my general theory that the piece was press impelled. I got my copy from an English dealer. It is marked in blue pencil; has a spindle scar. The blue pencil has been used to write a heading 'Last' over the printed *Inaugural Address* and again under those words 'of President Lincoln.' Below the spindle scar in blue 'Orationed' with two cryptic letters

INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

Both parties deprecated war: but one of them would *make* war rather than let the nation survive: and the other would *accept* war rather than let it perish. And the war came.

One-eighth of the whole population were colored slaves, not distributed generally over the Union, but localized in the southern part of it. These slaves constituted a peculiar and powerful interest. All knew that this interest was, somehow, the cause of the war. To strengthen, perpetuate and extend this interest was the object for which the insurgents would rend the Union, even by war: while the government claimed no right to do more than to restrict the territorial enlargement of it. Neither party expected for the war the magnitude or the duration which it has already attained. Neither anticipated that the *cause* of the conflict might cease with, or even before, the conflict itself should cease. Each looked for an easier triumph, and a result less fundamental and astounding. Both read the same Bible, and pray to the same God; and each invokes His aid against the other. It may seem strange that any men should dare to ask a just God's assistance in wringing their bread from the sweat of other men's faces: but let us judge not, that we be not judged. The prayers of both could not be answered—that of neither has been answered fully. The Almighty has His own purposes. "Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come: but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh." If we shall suppose that American slavery is one of those offences which, in the providence of God, must needs come, but which, having continued through His appointed time,

lower case, *gh*. A numeral in ink '45 is in the upper right hand corner. An ink bracket is margined above and below the word *some* in line 8 of page 2. A blue X in front of *fundamental* on line 17. A blue doodle margins line 9 of page 3 and the word *unrequited* is underlined in blue. The same pencil wrote below the address 'Abraham Lincoln President of the United States' in two lines. The words 'of the' are obviously a speed writing compaction. Walt Whitman uses the same contraction.

"Finally and at long last there is what I am *sure* is the autograph of Lincoln on page 1 above the border... Going back to my press presumption it is possible to reconstruct some correspondent... for an English paper getting to the President and pressing his copy upon him for the signature—the proffered small pocket pen—the holding of something for A. L. to write on in the crush..."

In January 1952 at the Podell sale when the Carroll A. Wilson copy was

sold at auction for \$1,850, it was described in *American Book Prices Current* as "one of 4 copies." Perhaps this count included, in addition to Wilson's copy, the copies in the Lebold, Lilly and Illinois State Historical Libraries. Haverlin also owned his copy in 1952. At the time of the Podell sale there were no copies in the Library of Congress.

In the early 1960s, it is rumored among book collectors that the Goodspeed Book Shop of Boston, Massachusetts, located five additional copies which may account for more copies being today in institutional and private hands. Needless to state, the discovery of additional copies has not affected the value of the folder, with current prices now ranging as high as \$2,750.

An excellent article titled "The Second Inaugural On Its One-Hundredth Birthday March 4, 1865 — March 4, 1965" appeared in the March 1965 issue of *The Month*, a magazine published by Goodspeed's Book Shop, 18 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts. Permission to publish this article (which features M. 600) has been granted by the editor:

"On the last Sunday in February, 1865, President Lincoln entered his office holding a roll of manuscript in his hand. To a Congressman there by appointment and to Francis B. Carpenter, portrait painter and author of *Six Months at the White House*, the President said: 'Lots of wisdom in this document, I suspect. It is what will be called my "second inaugural," containing about 600 words. I will put it away here in this drawer until I want it.' Then seating himself before the fire, in a 'familiar and cheerful mood' (Carpenter wrote), Lincoln talked of the old days in Illinois.

"Lincoln had more reason to feel 'cheerful' that night than for a long time. Grant was closing in on Richmond, Sherman was advancing northward through the Carolinas, and Thomas had triumphed in the West. The end of the war was coming at last. On the 4th of March, at noon, the 38th Congress would adjourn and the 39th would not meet till December, unless called in special session. The President was about to begin his second term, which (write Randall and Current, *Lincoln the President*) 'was not expected necessarily to be his last—gamblers... were betting that he would be re-elected in 1868. After four years as a war President, he could look ahead to nearly four more, at last, as a peace President. More immediately, with no Congress in session to hinder him, he could look ahead to a few months of peace-making on his own... [to] the kind of settlement that he desired.'

'And on what the Chief Magistrate might have to say,' writes Carl Sandburg (*The War Years*), 'on his words now, such had become his stature and place, depended much of the face of events and the character of what was to happen when the war was over. This no one understood more deeply and sensitively than Lincoln as he wrote his second inaugural address.'

INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

3

He now wills to remove, and that He gives to both north and south this terrible war, as the woe due to those by whom the offence came, shall we discern therein any departure from those divine attributes which the believers in a living God always ascribe to Him! Fondly do we hope—fervently do we pray—that this mighty scourge of war may speedily pass away. Yet, if God wills that it continue until all the wealth piled by the bondman's two hundred and fifty years of unrequited toil shall be sunk, and until every drop of blood drawn with the lash shall be paid by another drawn with the sword, as was said three thousand years ago, so still it must be said, "The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether."

With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan—to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and a lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations.

"The 4th of March, 1865—Inauguration Day—dawned dark and stormy. Rain fell steadily through the morning. Mud oozed through the pavement of Pennsylvania Avenue. Just before noon the rain ended but it left the spectators of the morning parade wet and bedraggled. 'Such another dirty crowd probably never was seen,' reported Noah Brooks, the *Sacramento Union's* man in Washington.

"Lincoln sat in his room in the Senate wing of the Capitol, examin-

ing and signing Congressional bills, until called to take his place in the front row of the Senate chamber, where the inaugural ceremonies were to begin. To Secretary of the Navy Gideon Welles they seemed poorly planned: 'All was confusion . . . a jumble.' Besides, there were the weather and the Vice-President elect. Andrew Johnson of Tennessee, who was to take the oath and speak first, was recovering from typhoid fever and was feeling poorly, wherefore, as was customary, he fortified himself with a little whiskey. But Johnson was a

temperate man, and the Senate chamber was hot, and the stimulant launched him into a rambling speech, to the great distress of Lincoln, who—as he walked to the inaugural platform outside—whispered to an aide that Andrew was to orate no more that day. At Lincoln's arrival on the capitol steps, writes Brooks:

'A tremendous shout prolonged and loud, arose from the surging ocean of humanity . . . just at that moment the sun . . . burst forth in its unclouded meridian splendor, and flooded the spectacle with glory and with light. Every heart beat quicker at the unexpected omen.'

"Then it was that Lincoln began what Lord Charnwood called 'one of the few speeches ever delivered by a great man at the crisis of his fate on the sort of occasion which a tragedian telling his story would have devised for him.'

'Fellow-Countrymen: At this second appearing to take the oath of the presidential office, there is less occasion for an extended address than there was at the first.' Four years of war had been accompanied by his and others' 'public declarations . . . on every point and phrase.' Four years before 'Both parties deprecated war; but one of them would *make* war rather than let the nation survive; and the other would *accept* war rather than let it perish. And the war came.' Carl Sandburg reports 'applause and cheers' at the words 'Both parties deprecated war' and that Lincoln paused long before adding 'And the war came.'

The President then spoke of slavery, 'somehow, the cause of this war' and an 'offence' against Providence, continuing: 'If we shall suppose that American slavery is one of those offences which, in the providence of God must needs come, but which, having continued through His appointed time . . .'

"The final sentence has long been cherished as the supreme utterance in all inaugural addresses since 1789, 'a sacred effort' as American Negro writer and lecturer Frederick Douglass called it. During these 75 words 'Reporters noticed . . . many moist eyes and here and there tears coursing down faces unshamed of emotion' (Sandburg).

'With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan—to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations.'

"As we were working on this note we paused to listen to a recording of Sir Winston Churchill's *Battle of Britain* or *Finest Hour* speech. We first heard it by radio from London twenty-five years ago—and now again on the day of his funeral. How we wish we could have had on tape Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, and his Second Inaugural.

"May we be forgiven for hacking out pieces of the earlier part of the address—an offence the less pardonable because the Second Inaugural is the briefest of all its kind, running to little more than the 600 words Lincoln himself had counted.

"As with the even shorter address at Gettysburg, the greatness of the Second Inaugural was not at once universally recognized. Some newspapers found it too little and too general, failing in the spelling out of

peace terms. One Pennsylvanian wrote to a fellow Keystone-Stater, Simon Cameron, Lincoln's first Secretary of War: 'Why could not Mr. [Secretary of State] Seward have prepared the Inaugural so as to save it from the ridicule of a Sophomore in a British University?' — apropos of which Messrs. Randall and Current write: 'But Cameron's correspondent knew nothing of the actual response in England... If anything, the second inaugural received even greater immediate acclaim in England than in the United States.' And Charles Francis Adams, Jr., (son of our Ambassador to England), veteran of the war and later a railroad man, thought that 'Not a prince or minister in all Europe could have risen to such an equality with the occasion.'

"Lincoln himself, in a letter of March 15th, wrote: 'I expect the [Second Inaugural] to wear as well as—perhaps better than—anything I have produced; but I believe it is not immediately popular. Men are not flattered by being shown that there has been a difference of purpose between the Almighty and them.'

"Cannon boomed as Lincoln walked from the platform. That evening, in the East Room of the White House, he shook hands (according to the press) with more than 6,000 people — among them Walt Whitman, who presently wrote the greatest of American elegies on the death of the man who had written and on that day spoken the greatest of American inaugural addresses. At midnight the crowds departed, leaving the White House, said the President's aide, Colonel Crook, looking 'as if a regiment of rebel troops had been quartered there, with permission to forage.'" Inaugural Address. March 4, 1865. [Caption title.] 8vo leaflet, removed, (short marginal tear on both leaves, pp. 3, in morocco-backed case. [Washington, 1865.] \$2,750.00

"Monaghan 600. The extremely rare first printing. "No American President had ever spoken words like these to the American People."

—Carl Schurz.



From the Lincoln National Life Foundation

A portion of the rope with which David E. Herold was hanged July 7, 1865.

The Lincoln Conspirators

A Military Court in Washington, D.C. brought to trial eight people who were charged with conspiring to bring about the assassination and death of the Sixteenth President and the members of his cabinet and administrative staff. Of the eight prisoners, four were given a death sentence. These were Mrs. Mary A. Surratt, Lewis Paine, David E. Herold and George A. Atzerodt. The remaining four were given prison sentences. The death sentences were carried out on July 7, 1865.

In the Foundation's archives is to be found a rather gruesome relic — a piece of the rope used to hang Herold, along with a statement by W. H. Maxwell, the soldier who secured the fragment of execution:

The Regt. I was in the 4th U.S. Veteran Vols. Hancock's Corps done duty around the old Capitol prison Washington where those connected with the assassination of Lincoln were confined formed a hollow square about the scaffold when they were hanged and Co. E of which I was one cut the bodies of Mrs. Surratt, Payne, Herold & Azerott down.

W. H. Maxwell

Maxwell served three years in the Army of the Potomac, First division, being connected with the 6th Corps,

Co., 65th N. Y. Vols. and Battery C. 1st Penn. Light Artillery. He also served one year in Co. E. 4th U. S. Vet Vols. Hancock's Corps. He participated in the following battles: Lees Mill, Siege of Yorktown, Williamsburg, Fair Oaks, White Oak Swamp, Malvern Hill, Fredericksburg, twice, Salem Heights, Wilderness, Harper's Ferry, Maryland Heights, Winchester and other small skirmishes.

After the war Maxwell was an examiner and appraiser of merchandise at the New York Custom House under President Arthur and also served as postmaster for Saugerties during President Grant's first term.

Robert Lincoln — Genealogist

Editor's Note: Robert T. Lincoln, the eldest son of the President, was often reluctant to discuss the lineage of his distinguished father, but in a letter dated November 25, 1904 to William E. Curtis, Chicago Record-Herald Bureau, Washington, D. C., he was unusually accommodating.

R.G.M.

Pullman Building
Chicago

November Twenty-fifth, 1904

Dear Mr. Curtis:

Very many thanks for your letter of November twelfth, in which you give me some interesting and unknown details of the ancestry of my grandmother.

The blueprint copy of the Lincoln and Boone records in Pennsylvania, is very interesting to look at, and quite amusing in the close details of the births of children. It begins with the marriage of Abraham Lincoln, son of Mordecai Lincoln in 1737. It is my understanding that this Abraham Lincoln was the brother of my ancestor John Lincoln, who left Pennsylvania and settled in Rockingham County, Virginia, about 1750. His son Abraham, went to Kentucky in 1780, and my father was the grandson of the latter.

Very Truly Yours
Robert T. Lincoln

Wm. E. Curtis, Esq.
Chicago Record Herald Bureau
Washington, D. C.

Announcement

Lincoln Lore Index 1 — 1500

About November 1, 1967 there will be available for sale a *Lincoln Lore Index* extending from the first copy issued April 15, 1929 to the fifteen hundredth copy issued in February, 1963. The index will be a 56 page publication in offset printing of green ink and will measure 11" x 8 1/2", the identical measurements of *Lincoln Lore*. The index will be in three divisions; namely, titles, subjects and persons.

The price of the index will be released at a later date. All orders will be handled through the Lincoln National Life Foundation.

Both His Father's and His Mother's Ancestors Were Located There

NOT many people outside the boundaries of Berks county, perhaps, know of the double family ties that bound Abraham Lincoln to that prosperous and happy section of Pennsylvania.

Visitors to a certain part of Exeter township, Berks county, today have pointed out to them the old Lincoln farm, where the martyred President's ancestors were born and lived. Not only this, but the present members of the Berks county Lincoln family trace their ancestry directly back to that of the war-time President.

Abraham Lincoln was connected with Berks county not only through his father's ancestry, but through that of his mother, Nancy Hanks. Still standing is the old Friends' meeting house, where, in years long gone, gathered for worship not only the Lincolns and the Hanks, but the family that gave to history Daniel Boone, the famous hunter and explorer of early frontier days.

POLITICALLY, the present male members of the Berks county Lincoln family are Democrats, although former members were Republicans. Political ideas, however, do not dim their appreciation of the fact that they are of the same family as the great President.

The Lincoln homestead consists of sixty-one acres, and is owned by Richard G. Lincoln, of Reading, who will hand it down to posterity as a memorial unless some historical society shall acquire it and care for it. The present spacious farmhouse contains the walls of the original little stone dwelling that was erected in 1733, and the gable end still shows the old door and one of the windows of the former little home.

Close to the Lincoln home are three of the most historic spots in Berks county. One is the place where John Hanks lived, the grandfather of Nancy Hanks, wife of Thomas Lincoln and mother of the President. John Hanks left Berks county about the same time that the Boones, and some of the Lincolns, migrated to the South, finally settling in Virginia, where Nancy Hanks was born.

Not more than a mile away is the Boone homestead, in the same township. It was in one of the rooms of this old-fashioned dwelling that the rugged pioneer, Daniel Boone, was born, October 22, 1733. His grandfather, George Boone, was the original settler, and came to the country from his native land, England, in 1718. Daniel's father, Squire Boone, was a man of authority in Berks county, and arranged many of the details for the development and government of the county. Daniel's cousin, Anna Boone, became the wife of Abraham Lincoln, the posthumous son, and great leader of the Berks Lincolns.

TRACE KIN TO ENGLAND

Nearly every schoolboy in Berks county knows the history of the Lincoln farm, where President Lincoln's ancestors were born and resided, but the facts are not generally known in national history. It is regarded as proved beyond doubt that the Lincoln family now residing in the county is of the same ancestry as President Abraham Lincoln. He acknowledged this in the brief sketch of his life which he wrote for pub-

lication in 1858, when he wrote of the ancestors of his paternal grandfather. During the Civil War the President virtually acknowledged the fact to the then congressman, S. E. Ancona, of Berks county, who, at age of 84 years, still is able to rehearse the conversation he had with the President on this subject. However, the Berks county Lincolns do not rely even on this to prove their claim to kinship, but on the complete record of the Lincoln family, from the time the earliest ancestor, Samuel Lincoln, born in 1637, left the banks of the river Exe, near Exeter, the chief city of Devonshire, England, and came to Hingham, Mass., where he died in 1690.

Samuel Lincoln was survived by a son named Mordecai, through whom the kinship is traced along to Berks county; while another son, also named Samuel, was the head of the Lincoln family in Massachusetts.

Mordecai was a blacksmith. He established the first smelting furnace in New England, and died in Massachusetts in 1727, leaving three sons and one daughter by his first wife, and a son and daughter by his second wife. Mordecai and Abraham, sons of his first wife, left Massachusetts and settled in New Jersey. Here Mordecai tarried several years and then moved to Berks county, while Abraham moved to Chester county, where he died without leaving children.

Historians do not agree as to the exact date when Mordecai came to Berks county, but it is thought to have been close to 1730. He built first, according to the best authority, a log cabin, which was later followed by a little stone house in 1733. He died in 1736. He had two wives, and the second wife, with five children, survived him. Three of his sons were Mordecai, Thomas and a posthumous son named Abraham.

John Lincoln, another son of Mordecai, who died at Exeter in 1736, moved to Caernarvon township, Berks (then Lancaster) county, and about 1760 emigrated to Augusta (now Rockingham) county, Virginia, where he died. Of his children, Abraham moved to North Carolina.

It is also said that this Abraham Lincoln was accompanied by Thomas, his brother. There is a strong belief that there was a generation between the dates of 1732 and 1782, the leaders also bearing the names of Thomas and Abraham, and it is believed that the Abraham and Thomas Lincoln who emigrated from North Carolina in 1780 were grandsons of John Lin-

coln, and not sons, as generally stated. Abraham was murdered by the Indians in 1784. He left five children, among them Thomas, the father of President Lincoln.

Abraham, the posthumous son, a brother of John Lincoln, became the head of the Berks county family. He was born in the little stone house, which was partly torn down years ago, but the walls of which form part of the present Colonial building on the Lincoln farm, now owned by Richard Lincoln, the direct descendant of the posthumous son, Abraham.

Abraham Lincoln became very prominent in the political history of Berks county. He served as county commissioner from 1772 to 1778; was one of the sub-tenants of Berks; represented the county in the General Assembly from 1782 to 1786, and was a delegate to the Pennsylvania convention to ratify the Federal Constitution in 1787. He was also a member of the Constitutional Convention in 1789-90. In 1761 he married Anna Boone. The Boones were neighbors.

Anna (Boone) Lincoln was a daughter of George Boone. Daniel Boone was a son of Squire Boone—Squire being the man's Christian name, and not a title. Thus the Lincolns were closely connected with the family of the Kentucky pioneer and were neighbors.

The Boones were Quakers, and there is a statement in the records of the Exeter monthly meeting, "that Anna Lincoln condones her marriage for marrying one not a member of the society," which indicates that the Lincolns were not Quakers. However, the Quaker meeting house is thought to have been a place of worship for those renowned families of Berks county—the Lincolns, Hanks and Boones. This place of worship is today marked by the oldest Quaker meeting



House in the county, and is probably the only place of worship which is without a single member. Here a good many of the Berks Lincolns are buried.

Abraham Lincoln was survived by four sons and five daughters. One of them was Mordecai, a name that was frequently used for naming sons in this Lincoln family, as well as John, Abraham and Thomas. Mordecai, among other children, had a son who was named Thomas, and Thomas' son John was the father of the eight children who are today representing the head of the Lincoln family of Berks county.

John Lincoln was survived by eleven children; two sons and a daughter died since his demise. Today there are three sons and five daughters, all living in Berks county—Richard G. Lincoln, Albert G. Lincoln, Harrison G. Lincoln, Mrs. Samuel Hafer, Mrs. John Reifsnnyder, Mrs. Martha Focht, Mrs. Daniel Biehl and Mrs. Lewis Ruth.

Albert G. Lincoln, the eldest of the family, is 70 years old. He lives at Gibraltar, and his features resemble those of the President. He is tall, measuring 5 feet 11½ inches. He has been prominent in the

political history of his locality. He is the father of five daughters and one son. The son, Oscar, is as tall as the father, and bears the same Lincoln facial expressions. He was named after his deceased uncle, Oscar, who was as tall as the President, 6 feet 2 inches.

Harrison G. Lincoln is the second oldest of the family, having reached 68 years. His descendants are three daughters and three granddaughters. Richard G. Lincoln is the owner of the old homestead. He is 64 years old, tall and robust, and also bears a strong resemblance to President Lincoln. He has two children, a son and a daughter.

Mrs. Samuel Hafer, the oldest daughter, is 67 years old. She also shows Lincoln features. She is the mother of three sons and two daughters and sixteen grandchildren, twelve of whom are living. Mrs. Focht is 62 years, a widow, with no descendants. Mrs. John Reifsnnyder is 59 years old, a widow, with no children. Mrs. Ruth is 57 years old and is the mother of a son and a daughter, and is also a widow. Mrs. Biehl is the mother of four daughters, a son having died. She, too, is a widow.

Berks county had another Abraham Lincoln, also a descendant of the early Berks county Lincolns. He

PENNSYLVANIA WAR-OFFICE,

M A Y 2d, 1777.

T O T H E P U B L I C.

TH E Honorable Major General SCHUYLER having informed this Board that a considerable body of Continental Troops, by the want of Blankets, are retarded from joining His Excellency General Washington, and requested our aid in collecting a quantity from the inhabitants immediately,—We cannot doubt but every ~~faithful~~ subject of the United States ~~that are~~ well attached to the cause of America, will spare all the Blankets (receiving the value of the same) for the use of the Troops which they conveniently can. And as the making an Assessment of Blankets has been recommended by Congress as a measure that would be more just and equal to the inhabitants in general than to oppress the generous and benevolent only, by voluntary contributions. This Board have therefore, by virtue of the authority given them by Congress and the emergency of the case, ordered such Assessment to be made; and they earnestly request the aid of all friends to their country in carrying the said Assessment into execution, as the health of the Army, a consideration deserving the utmost attention, depends upon it.

The following is a list of the Gentlemen appointed to execute the Orders of the Board in the City of Philadelphia and the several Counties.

City of Philadelphia. *George Henry, Richard Humphreys, Charles W. Peale, John Dunlap, Thomas Irwin, Casper Guyer, Robert Smith, Jacob Graff, Ephraim Bonham, Jacob Bright, Jacob Schreiner, Alexander Boyd.*

County of Philadelphia. *William Coats, Jacob Engle, Samuel Dewees, George Smith, Archibald Thomson, William Antis, John Moore, Benjamin M'Veagh, William Dean, Robert Curray, Isaac Warner, Daniel Heester.*

County of Bucks. *Joseph Kirkbride, John Gill, Samuel Smith, William Crawford, John Lacey, Andrew Kachlin, Joseph Hart, James Benezet, Henry Wynkoop, Major M'Irvine, John Kidd, Richard Gibbs.*

Chester County. *Robert Smith, Benjamin Brannon, Thomas Strawbridge, Thomas Cheney, Lewis Gronow, Andrew Boyd, Richard Thomas, Caleb Davis, Nicholas Fairlamb, William Evans, William Clingban.*

Lancaster County. *Bartram Galbreath, James Crawford, Adam Ordt, Robert Thomson, Jobua Elder, Christopher Crawford, William Attlee, John Hubley, Alexander Lowry, Curtis Grubb, Philip Marsteller, Matthias Slough, Adam Reigart.*

York County. *Richard M'Alister, Hans Morrison, John Hayes, James M'Canlis, John Carson, Joseph Donaldson, James Smith, Martin Eichelberger, James Edgar, Francis Crazart, John Hay.*

Berks County. *Jacob Morgan, John Old, Abraham Lincoln, Henry Shoemaker, Christian Lower, Jun. Valentine Eckhart, James Read, Henry Haller, Adam Whitman, Benjamin Spiker, Mark Bird, Daniel Hunter, Gabriel Heester.*

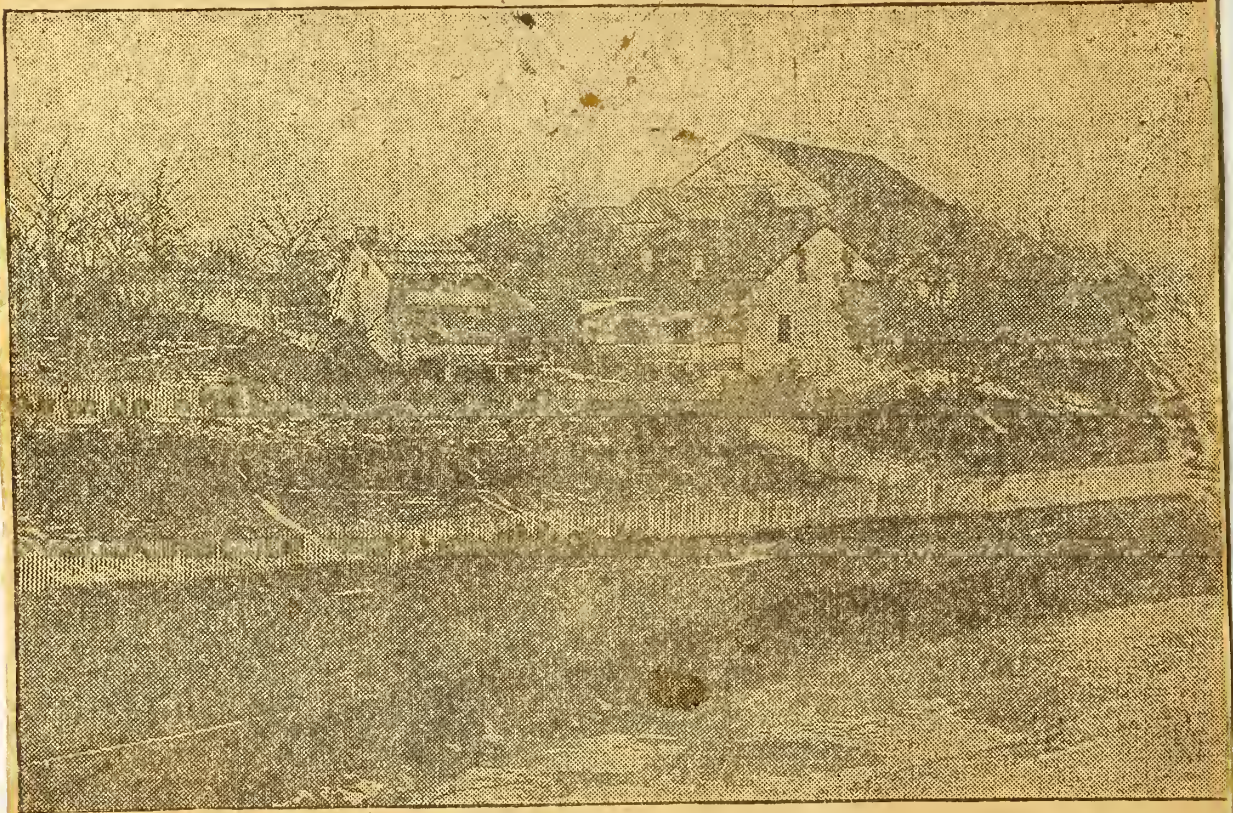
Cumberland County. *James Galbreath, James Gregory, Benjamin Blythe, Robert M'Coy, George Sharp, John Harris, William Lyon, George Stevenson, William Clark, John Harris, William Duffield, Hugh Alexander.*

Northampton County. *John Witzel, Jacob Shoemaker, David Deshler, Arthur Latimore, John Chambers, Colonel Labar, Abraham Borlin, Simon Dreisbach, Peter Rheads, Robert Lettis Hooper, Jacob Stroud.*

Published by ORDER of the BOARD,

JACOB S. HOWELL, SECRETARY.

Lincoln Homestead in Berks County



From this spot in Exeter township, John Lincoln, great-grandfather of the president, migrated to Virginia and the southwest.

Mosdici Lincoln m. (before 1708) Sarah Jones.
 B. 1657 - d. 1727.
 Mosdici Lincoln m. Mary Robeson.
 F. 1686 - d. 1736.
 Thomas Lincoln m. Elizabeth Davis.
 F. 1732. d. 1770. b. 1729
 Michael Lincoln m. (1781) Rachael Thompson.
 B. 1761 - d. 1849. b. 1760 - d. 1848
 Sarah Lincoln m. ? - Michael Roush.
 F. 1796 - d. ? F. 1781 - d. 1859
 Mary Roush m. 1827 Joseph Dusbach
 1810 - 1874 F. 1810 - 1851
 Michael Roush Dusbach - my father.
 1836 - 1918.

History of Buffalo Valley

LINCOLN'S ANCESTRAL HOME

ancestry

Visit Lincoln's Ancestral Home.

READING, Pa., Feb. 12 (A^p).—Abraham Lincoln's ancestors having lived in Berks County, his birth anniversary was observed today with special exercises in city and county schools and there was an increased number of pilgrims to the Lincoln homestead. Mordecai Lincoln Jr. built the homestead in Exeter Township more than 200 years ago. A suitable marker has been erected there by the Historical Society of Berks County.

*In Long Beach
paper*
D 5

Lincoln's Cousin Dies

BIRDSBORO, Pa., Dec. 23.—(AP)—
Mrs. Henry K. Harrison, 62, first
cousin of Abraham Lincoln, died
last night. She was the daughter of
David and Mary Ives Lincoln.

18 Kinsfolk of Lincoln Attend Berks Reunion

The two-century-old stone building in which Mordecai Lincoln, great-great-grandfather of Abraham Lincoln, once lived in Exeter Township, yesterday was the scene of a reunion of men, women and children who can trace their kinship to the Great Emancipator.

Sponsored by the Reading-Berks Bicentennial Committee, the union centered Lincoln's birthday anniversary attention on the thick-walled homestead and gave to Berks Countians a new realization of the historic background of the Pennsylvania branch of the Lincoln family.

Eighteen persons, whose genealogy goes back to Mordecai Lincoln exchanged stories and historical information about the family, and C. H. Martin, of Lancaster, representing the Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania, traced the growth of the branch of the Lincoln family best known in this state.

Reading and Berks County were represented by 11 of the 18 relatives. Among the other seven was

Miss Mary Ives Parvin, of New York City.

In addition to Martin's address, the brief program included the placing of a wreath at the historical marker on the homestead and an inspection of the house which now is owned by Mr. and Mrs. John Hoffman, the tenants.

Place Wreath at Marker

The oldest and youngest descendants present — Rosewell S. Lincoln, 81, of 220 North Ninth St., and Miss Mary Lincoln Kropp, 10, of Mt. Penn—put the wreath in front of the marker. They were introduced to the group by Alfred Stern, Bicentennial director, who arranged the reunion.

In his address, Martin recalled that H. G. Wells, noted English historian, once named Abraham Lincoln as one of the six most noted men in the world, placing him alongside Jesus of Nazareth, Asoka, Buddha, Aristotle and Roger Bacon.

"Reading and Berks County may take just pride in the fact that the Lincoln family resided here and that this community contributed to the welfare of the family that, in a few generations later, gave to this nation its great leader during the period of its greatest crisis—one whose fame has been growing since his death—the only American classified by an outstanding authority among the six most noted men

in the history of the world. It is fitting and proper to do him honor and revere the generations of his ancestry who resided here," he declared.

Martin expressed the hope that the homestead will be "preserved as a shrine symbolic, that in a democracy under the American plan of economy and free enterprise in a world fraught with strife, it will stand as mute reminder of the possibility for one of humble birth to rise to leadership among his fellow men."

In tracing the lineage of the Lincoln family, Martin said that the first Lincoln to come to America from England was Samuel Lincoln. He arrived in Salem, Mass., on June 20, 1637.

A descendant of Samuel Lincoln, Mordecai was born in Massachusetts in 1686 and by 1710 was located in New Jersey.

Traced on Tax Lists

"The first evidence of Mordecai Lincoln's removal from Monmouth County, New Jersey, to Pennsylvania is found in the tax lists of Chester County, for the year 1720," Martin explained.

"His name also appears in 1722, 1724, and 1725. During these five years it appears he was located near the branches of French Creek and the Brandywine in the township of Coventry. The iron industry beckoned him to Pennsylvania

and he settled in the heart of the industry of those years."

Mordecai entered into a business partnership with two other men. Martin continued, and later sold his part of the business for 500 pounds.

"Before the close of the year 1727," Martin related, "Mordecai Lincoln had settled in Oley Township, Philadelphia County, where he was serving as a road surveyor. His wife, Hannah, died in 1727. Two years later he married Mary Robinson and the next year, 1730, he purchased a 300-acre tract of land, part of his father-in-law's original grant."

It was this farm which now exists in Exeter Township, Martin said. A date of 1733 once appeared on the gable of the house which played an important part in the reunion yesterday.

One of Mordecai's nine children, John Lincoln, moved to Virginia. He was the great grandfather of the president.

Benjamin Parvin, of Leesport, who is a collector of Lincolnia, said all the Lincoln descendants at the reunion stem from Mordecai's second marriage. Mordecai was the great-great-grandfather of Parvin and many of the others present yesterday.

Lincoln Items Displayed

Another of the relatives, John Lincoln, of Spring City, brought to the reunion a picture of Alfred G. Lincoln, third cousin of the president. Alfred Lincoln was the grandfather of John Lincoln and Earl Ruppert, of Reading, who were at the reunion.

Mrs. Clarkson Hunt, of Lancaster, a great-great-great-granddaughter of Mordecai, showed the reunionists an old letter which Jacob Boone, a grandson of Daniel

Boone, wrote to James Lincoln, a grandson of Mordecai, who lived in Churchtown (then Conestoga) in 1818. The letter described the hardships Boone encountered while returning to Kentucky from a visit to the Berks-Lancaster region.

Another bit of Lincolnia was produced by Caleb Killian, of Reading, in the form of the records of a public sale and auction at the Lincoln homestead on December 20, 1806. Mark R. Bittner, of Allentown, also had pertinent items for display.

The descendants, in addition to those mentioned, who took part in the program yesterday were: Dr. Herbert Beck, of Lancaster; Ruth Geissler and son, Darrell, of Reading; Killian, of Reading; Mrs. Alice Muhlenberg and Jack Muhlenberg, of Morgantown

Pennsylvania Lincolns

Lancaster Joins Celebration in Berks County Thursday at Site of Homestead of Emancipator's Family; Origins in Paper to be Read of C. H. Martin Show Movement from England Through This Area

Another Abraham Lincoln

PENNSYLVANIA had an Abraham Lincoln long before the Great Emancipator, his descendant, reached the national spotlight, according to C. H. Martin, local authority on the life of the martyred President. Pennsylvania's Abe was the son of Mordecai Lincoln of Berks County in whose homestead a program will be held Thursday with Martin as guest speaker. Mordecai died in the Berks county house in 1735 and a posthumous son, Abraham Lincoln who was born some months later, lived there for 69 years becoming prominent in public affairs. He was selected to make an address to General Washington in Philadelphia at the end of the War of Independence. Martin says another Lincoln ancestor received the sword of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown.

Lancaster is taking its share of the newly-spotlighted background of Abraham Lincoln when the nation's celebration of his birthday focuses in Berks County on Thursday.

When the Lincoln family holds its reunion at the old homestead in Exeter on the Emancipator's birthday, it will be a Lancastrian who will do the talking—and, naturally, he won't slight his home county in the round-up of his latest researches.

Knows More Than Abe Did

Chosen to tell the story of Lincoln's ancestry is C. H. Martin, a member of the Lincoln Fellowship of Pennsylvania and a recognized authority. He knows a great deal more about Lincoln's ancestors than Lincoln did himself—indeed, he will reveal that the Civil War president told a mild and unintentional lie when he said that his "great-great grandfather was a Quaker who settled in, Berks County, Pa."

This is a good item for the promotion of the Reading-Berks Bicentennial, which is getting underway for 1948—but it isn't exactly true. There wasn't any such place as Berks County, Martin points out, when Mordecai Lincoln bought 300 acres of land from his second wife's father (one of the Robesonias Robesons) in 1727. There were only Philadelphia and Lancaster Counties covering the region now called Berks, which didn't come into being until 1752.

In fact, Mordecai's son John (Abe's great grandfather) put himself down on paper as a resident of "Caernarvon Twp., Lancaster County," on two deeds which Martin has checked.

John Moved On

That was about the time when restless John was looking toward wilder Western country, and Berks County was only 16 years old when the Lincolns packed up and moved to Linville in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia.

John's son Abrahah, grandfather of the president, died a pioneer's death when he was shot by Indians while clearing a wilderness farm in 1786. He had followed Daniel Boone (whose birthplace is another Berks landmark) over the mountains to Kentucky.

His son, Thomas, the president's father, was only two years old when the shot rang out, and

he eventually landed in Illinois, where Abraham was born.

Traces 7 Generations

But Martin's studies have taken the Lincoln family back far past the arrival of Mordecai in Pennsylvania. He's found that the first of the family in America was Samuel, who came from Hingham, England, to Hingham, Mass., in 1637. His son Mordecai, born there in 1657, had a son Mordecai, Jr., born 1686 at Hingham, and later the builder of the Exeter homestead after stopovers in Monmouth County, N. J., and Coventry Twp., Chester Co., where he followed the trade of iron-founder, as his father had done. That puts six generations of Americans on the family tree before "Honest Abe" was born.

It was a Berks man, David Jones Lincoln, of Birdsboro, who got mad enough during the Civil War about the slanders on Lincoln's birth to write a letter establishing the family's genealogy. But he chose a Lancaster newspaper, the Intelligencer (not too friendly to Lincoln, by the way) for the first publication. It was picked up by hundreds of other papers, and later confirmed in detail by historians.

Lincoln family descendants, including several from this area, will hear the story Thursday as Martin tells it at Mordecai's old homestead in what is now, undeniably, Berks County.

Mrs. Hunt Invited

Among descendants of Mordecai Lincoln invited to attend the family gathering at Exeter on Thursday is Sarah Lincoln Hunt, of 247 E. Orange St., as well as several others from the Philadelphia and Reading areas, and from out of the state.

In choosing a Lancastrian to deliver the address at the low-roofed, thick-walled stone house built by Mordecai in 1733 seven miles southwest of the present



CARVING LINCOLN STATUE—Sculptor Fred M. Torrey works on statue of Abraham Lincoln in his Chicago studio. Statue of Lincoln as a youth will be placed at Decatur, Ill.

city of Reading, the Bicentennial Committee recognized Martin's long interest in Abraham Lincoln.

It's right in the Lancaster tradition. For Martin's numerous Lincoln items follow another notable local collection, that of the late Congressman W. W. Griest, which is now on display in Fackenthal Library at Franklin & Marshall College.

East Earl Link

Lancaster had an odd link to Lincoln's marriage to Mary Todd, too. It was a man born in East Earl who had as much to do with making up Mary's mind as Abe did, so the story goes.

Lincoln and Stephen A. Douglas were vying for her hand, and eventually she got so thoroughly mixed up that it affected her health, and she called in her brother-in-law, Dr. William Smith Wallace.

The doctor, member of a family which kept store in East Earl from about 1761 to 1908, was married to Mary Todd's sister, Frances. He'd kept watch of Mary's romance, and when



LINCOLN EXPERT C. H. Martin will speak on the Civil War President's ancestry at Thursday's family reunion in the old homestead in Berks County.

she called him to her bedside he knew the remedy as well as the illness. He advised her to quit worrying, and marry Abe.

She did, and became the First Lady of the Land.

Dr. Wallace rode her bridal train to the White House, for as Lincoln's family doctor in Springfield he was the logical man to become his personal physician as President. In these days when presidential medical aides must be at least generals or admirals, Wallace's rank of major doesn't look so grand, but the family in East Earl was plenty proud anyway, with one of the local cousins serving as an aide.

Interest Growing

Amazing interest in Lincoln continues across the nation, 139 years after his birth and 83 years after his assassination. Instead of decreasing, it's increasing. Those who want to get hold of everything they can about the martyr-president have a tough job on their hands. Books keep coming off the presses in profusion.

Today there are three major periodical dealing with Lincoln, several universities dedicated to his memory, at least ten societies studying his work, and thousands of professional and amateur Lincoln scholars.

Many Busy Collectors

Martin is just one of about 3,500 active collectors of Lincoln books and material. About \$1,500,000 worth of Lincoln letters, documents, autographs, photographs and other items are sold every year, according to Ralph Newman, of Chicago's Abraham Lincoln bookshop.

Main center for Lincoln students now is the huge collection

of Lincoln papers opened for public inspection in Washington last July, after being withheld 27 years under terms of Robert Todd Lincoln's will.

But the Berks County homestead, the oldest of Lincoln landmarks, is still visited by some historically-minded pilgrims.

Was Dated 1733

Originally the gable end of the Lincoln home contained a stone with the inscription, "M. L.—1733," indicating the probable time of its erection.

Nestled in the lee of a hill, less than two miles from the Schuylkill River, the homestead includes

the original house and summer kitchen, and a barn and milk house which have since been built.

For the past 27 years, the 60-acre property has been owned and tenanted by Mr. and Mrs. John Hoffman. Also residing on the property are the families of Mrs. Hoffman's two sons and a daughter by a former marriage.

Evidence that Negro slaves worked for the man whose descendant would one day liberate their own progeny, is found in numerous historical documents. One of them, an inventory of old Mordecai's estate, relates:

"Mordecai Lincoln, while possessed of more than 1,400 acres of land at his death, left a comparatively small estate. Nearly one fourth of his property was represented by two slaves. One of them designated as 'Negro Will,' was appraised at 20 pounds, and the other designated as 'Negro John for Seven Years,' was valued at 10 pounds."

Had 3 Guns

The appraisal is a quaint document in which the articles were grouped in such peculiar combinations as "a chest and looking glass, chairs and pewter, three guns and wooden ware, spinning wheels and iron pots, and a saddle, one bed and a trunk." An item of "smith tools valued at two pounds" indicated his calling.

While the eyes—and ears—of the nation will be directed toward the Berks County celebration Thursday, the increasing interest in Lincoln will go on every hour of every day, securing his position as the most avidly studied and the most popular of American heroes.

Family Portraits Stress Kinship of Lincoln With Reading Woman and Her Brother

Cousins of 'Abe' Invited to Attend Exeter Reunion

A visitor in the home of Miss Jennie Lincoln and her brother, Roswell Lincoln, at 220 North Ninth St., requires little time to discover the obvious connection between their family and the Lincolns made famous in history by Honest Abe.

On one wall of the dining room is a large portrait of the Great Emancipator, while on the other wall is a family picture in which the unmistakable Lincoln features are readily apparent.

"That was my father, Richard Lincoln," Miss Lincoln will explain. And a quick glance back to the Abraham Lincoln portrait confirms the similarity of facial characteristics.

Because they are distantly related to the 16th President and his forebears, the two Lincolns have been invited to participate in a reunion of Lincoln descendants at the Lincoln homestead in Exeter Township on Thursday, February 12, "Abe's" birthday. The reunion has been planned as part of Reading's Bicentennial celebration.

Father Once Owned It

The two Lincolns have another reason for joining in the ceremony at the thick-walled stone homestead which once housed Mordecai Lincoln, the great-great-grandfather of the famous President. Their father once owned the place.

"My father bought the farm many years ago and I can't recall exactly when he sold it. But we never lived there," Miss Lincoln declared yesterday. "He didn't want to sell it because we thought it should stay in the Lincoln family, but father's health wasn't very good and he finally sold it."

Richard Lincoln was a third cousin of Abraham Lincoln, she recalled. Not only did he have the same family name, but he resembled the President in appearance to such a degree that friends and others meeting him for the first time frequently called him "Abe" in jest.

"When he walked past the old boys' high school at Eighth and Washington Streets, the boys many times yelled out the windows, 'Hi Abe,'" she said.

The people of Reading learned to know him better 25 years ago when the city celebrated its 175th anniversary with a pageant. Naturally, Richard Lincoln played the role of the great Civil War executive, riding in a carriage and wearing the traditional silk top.

"He didn't need makeup," the



Roswell S. Lincoln looks at photographs of Lincoln family members at his home, 220 North Ninth St. The President's portrait was a gift to Roswell from a friend. His father, the late Richard Lincoln, was a third cousin of Honest Abe.—Times Staff Photo.

daughter commented.

Collection of Old Magazines

Miss Lincoln and her brother have a collection of old magazines containing articles on the President. That, and the portrait, are the two things they will show visitors who want to talk about the famous family name.

Roswell is retired, having worked for the Reading Railroad for 50 years. He was in charge of the freight station at Third and Buttenwood. He is an active member of the Masons.

The Mordecai Lincoln home, which is to be the scene for the Bicentennial reunion on Thursday, was built in 1733 and is the oldest Lincoln landmark in the country.

President Lincoln himself took recognition of his ancestry by writing at one time that his "great-great-grandfather was a Quaker who settled in Berks County, Pa."

It is historical fact that Mordecai migrated to Pennsylvania from New Jersey early in the 18th Century. He settled in Chester County, where he continued his trade as an iron maker. Later he moved to Berks County and built the home in Exeter Township.

Descendants joining in the reunion will lay a wreath on a marker at the home. The house also will be open for inspection. Present owners of the farm are Mr. and Mrs. John Hoffman, who live there year round.

Reading Times

READING, PA., MONDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 9, 1948

Ancestral Home of Lincoln Family



Home of Lincoln's great-great-grandfather, one mile south of U. S. 422, Reading, Pa. Two hundred years old, but well preserved. C. H. Thomas

Lincoln Shrine To Be Featured At Bicentennial

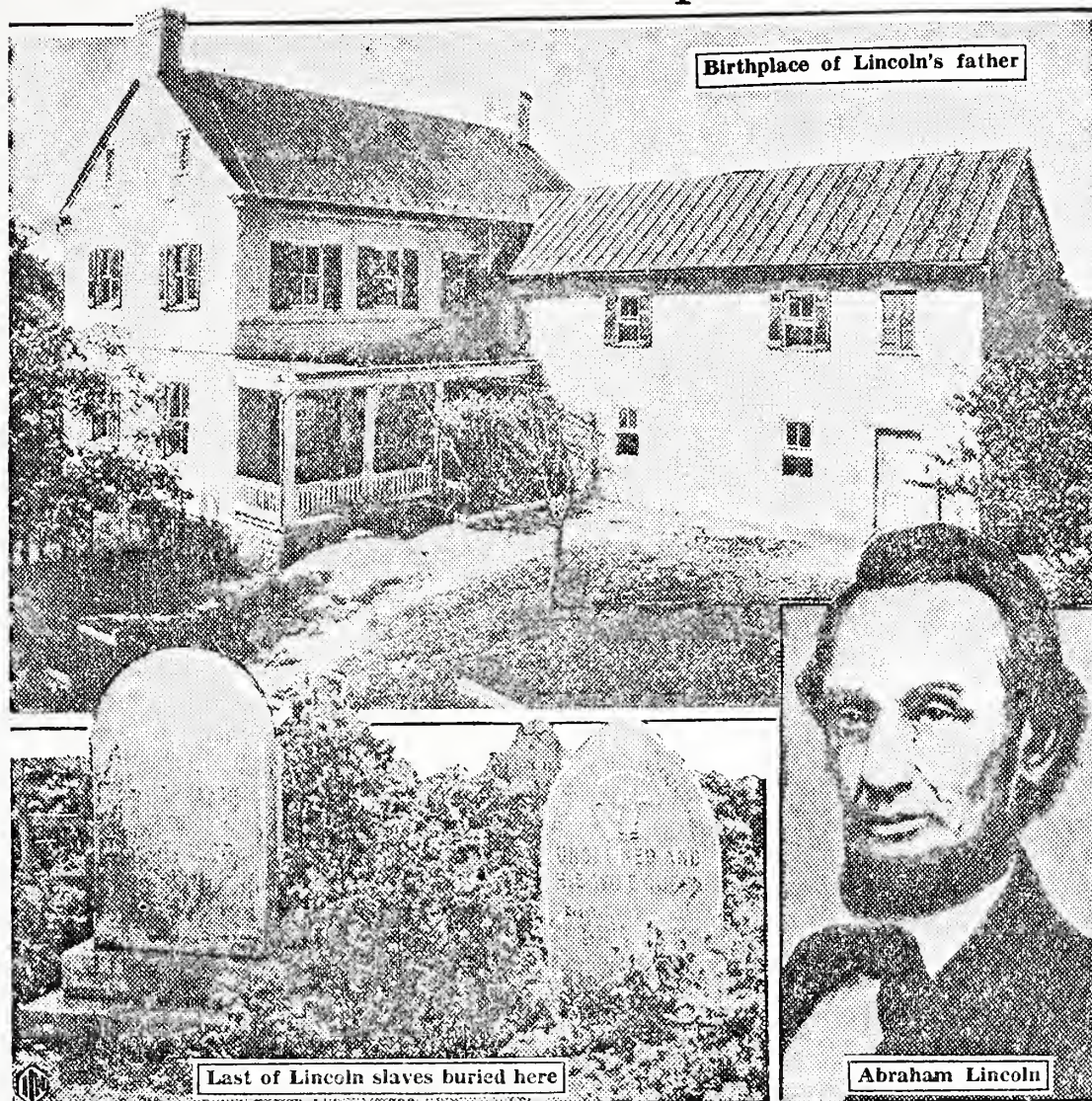
Reading, Pa. (UP)—National interest is being revived in one of the least known Lincoln shrines of this country as Reading in Berks County prepares to celebrate in 1948 the bicentennial of its founding.

Even before Thomas and Richard Penn, sons of William Penn who gave the state the family name, founded Reading in 1748, ancestors of the great emancipator had settled near this modern industrial city.

The home Mordecai Lincoln, the great-great-grandfather of President Abraham Lincoln, built in Berks County in 1733 still stands. It is on a little traveled gravel road in the village now called Exeter. The home will be featured as part of the centennial.

Not far from the Lincoln ancestral homestead of gray stone is the Exeter Friends' Meeting House, established in 1725. Here Lincoln's family worshiped together with the family of Daniel Boone, the pioneer American scout and Indian fighter.

Abraham Lincoln's Kin Prosperous Virginians



By GERALD FRANKLIN

International Illustrated News Writer

Harrisonburg, Va. — Contrary to popular belief, President Lincoln's forbears were not poor and shiftless, but were influential and prosperous Virginians who lived in a handsome old brick Colonial home which, in a fine state of preservation, is still standing, with the Lincoln family cemetery and slave burying ground nearby.

The Lincoln homestead is near the little village of Edom, Va., not far from the Caverns of Melrose, and is reached by turning west from highway U. S. 11 at these caverns, six miles north of Harrisonburg. Visitors are welcome at this homestead, on February 12, birthday anniversary of the president. There are many callers. Exact directions as to how to reach the homestead can be obtained at Melrose caverns.

Thomas Lincoln, father of President Lincoln, was born in this house. John Lincoln, great-grandfather of the president, moved with his family into Virginia in 1768 and settled near Melrose caverns, where, as an influential pioneer, he built the first brick unit of the beautiful Colonial home. The rest of this classic Virginia manor was added before 1800 by Jacob Lincoln, great-uncle of the president.

John Lincoln was known as "Virginia John." Abraham Lincoln, his eldest son and grandfather of the president, lived in this homestead and was captain of a Virginia company during the revolution.

Captain Abraham Lincoln, with his son Thomas (father of the president) moved to Kentucky in 1782, leaving Jacob Lincoln, a brother of Captain Lincoln, in the Virginia homestead. Many Lincolns, descendants of Jacob and other sons and daughters of "Virginia John," now live near Melrose caverns, in Harrisonburg and elsewhere in Rockingham county.

On February 24, 1829, when Melrose caverns were known as "Harrison's cave," Franklin Lincoln, grandson of Jacob and a cousin of President Lincoln, entered the caverns and, by the light of torches or candles, carved his name and date. He later fought in the Civil war as a Confederate soldier.

Also in these caverns, is carved the name of John Lincoln, possibly John Lincoln, Jr., who was one of Jacob's four brothers, or perhaps "Virginia John" the pioneer, great-grandfather of the president. There is no date carved by the name of John Lincoln.

In April, 1862, during the Civil war, a federal soldier drew a rough portrait of President Lincoln with charcoal upon a wall further back in the caverns. These Lincoln signatures and this crude portrait can be distinctly seen in Melrose caverns by visitors today.

HOUSE LINCOLN'S ANCESTOR BUILT IS STILL STANDING

*Building Has Remained Unchanged Since the Days the Boones,
Hanks and "Old Abe's" Forefathers Lived Side by Side*

LORANE, Pa., Feb. 12.

LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY has a peculiar interest for Berks county, because the President's ancestors were born and reared in Berks county about a mile from this town. Not only did the early Lincolns hail from this place, but the family of Nancy Hanks, the mother of the rail-splitter, and the parents of Daniel Boone were raised in the same vicinity, and were next-door neighbors.

In Exeter township, one mile below this town, near a small stream, there is a stone house, in which lived, up to the time of his death, in May, 1736, Mordecai Lincoln, the great-great-grandfather of Abraham Lincoln. The homestead today embraces sixty-one acres, on which is the old stone house and a Swiss bank barn, now owned by a Lincoln descendant, Richard G. Lincoln, of Reading, Pa. The present owner is a son of John D. Lincoln, who married Sarah Gilbert in 1837, and who died in 1868. Other living members of the Lincoln family in Berks county are the brothers and sisters of Richard; Harrison G., of Reading; Alfred G., of Exeter; Mrs. Samuel R. Hafer, Mrs. John Reifsnnyder, Mrs. Martha Focht, Mrs. Lewis Ruth and Mrs. Daniel Blehl, all of Reading.

Acquaintances say that Alfred and Richard G. Lincoln resemble the great President. Richard has two children, Roswell and Jennie Lincoln, both living at home.

It was about 175 years ago that Mordecai Lincoln settled in Berks county, and built a home that stands today with only one alteration—the addition of a two-story kitchen. His first house was a log cabin, erected on the land belonging to what was known as the London Company. This later gave way to the present old-line Lincoln stone building.

In 1735 Mordecai Lincoln was appointed one of the viewers to lay out a highway, which is now the road from Reading by way of the Black Bear Inn, Stonersville to Athol. The Lincoln homestead passed to Mordecai Lincoln, Jr., and was left by him to his sons, Mordecai and Thomas, and a posthumous son, Abraham, who later became prominent in Berks county political affairs. Abraham was born in the old stone house, and died there in 1806, the same year that President Lincoln, who was named after him, was born in Kentucky.

The Berks county Abraham Lincoln served as commissioner of Berks county from 1772 to 1778. He also represented the county in the General Assembly from 1782 to 1786, and was a delegate to the Pennsylvania convention to ratify the federal constitution in 1787. He was also a member of the constitutional convention in 1789-90.

Almost everybody knows that the famous Kentucky frontiersman, Daniel

Boone, was born in Berks county, but only a few know that his early home is still standing and in good condition. It stands about a mile and a half from the Lincoln homestead, making the families practically next-door neighbors in those early days. In 1761 Abraham Lincoln, of Exeter township, married Anna Boone, daughter of James Boone, who was a near relative of George Boone, the grandfather of Daniel Boone, the pioneer. The mother of Anna Boone was Mary Fulke. Anna was a first cousin of Daniel Boone. The Boones were Quakers, and Abraham Lincoln was a Congregationalist. The minutes held at the Exeter Meeting House, near Baumstown, show that she was conformed for her marriage to one who was not a member of the Society of Friends.

There are a number of Lincoln descendants in Berks county who have records of the Lincoln family, the most complete one being in the possession of Miss Elizabeth A. Stahle.

Daniel Boone's grandfather, George Boone, was one of the original settlers of this region, having come to America from England in 1718. Among the neighbors of the Boones and Lincolns were the members of the Hanks family, who became so closely connected with the Lincoln family.

In 1750 the Boones left Exeter township, Berks county, for the South, and at the same time John Lincoln, son of Mordecai, moved to Virginia with his family. From Virginia John's son, Abraham, moved to Kentucky, and in 1732 was killed by an Indian while working in his cornfield. He left three sons, Thomas, the youngest, being the father of President Lincoln. The President's mother, Nancy Hanks, was the granddaughter of John Hanks, who, when the Boones and Lincolns left for the South, accompanied them to Virginia, where Nancy was born, and married Thomas Lincoln in 1806.

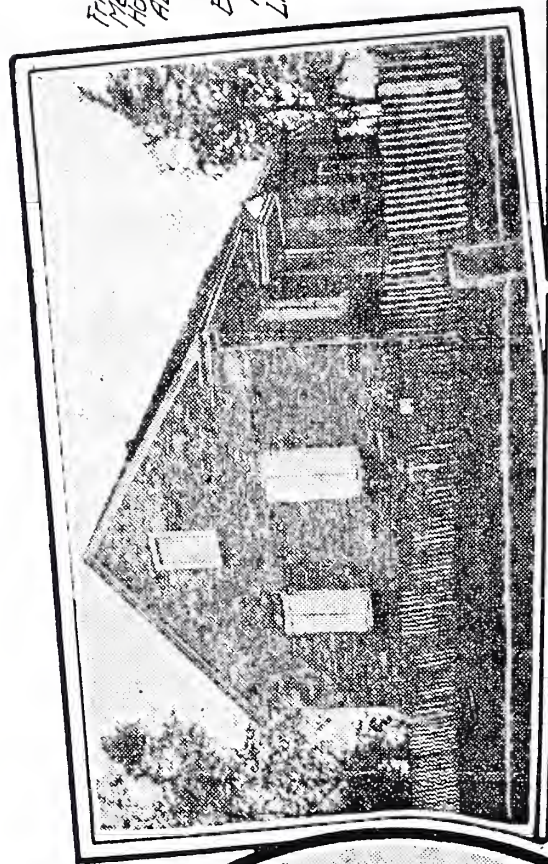
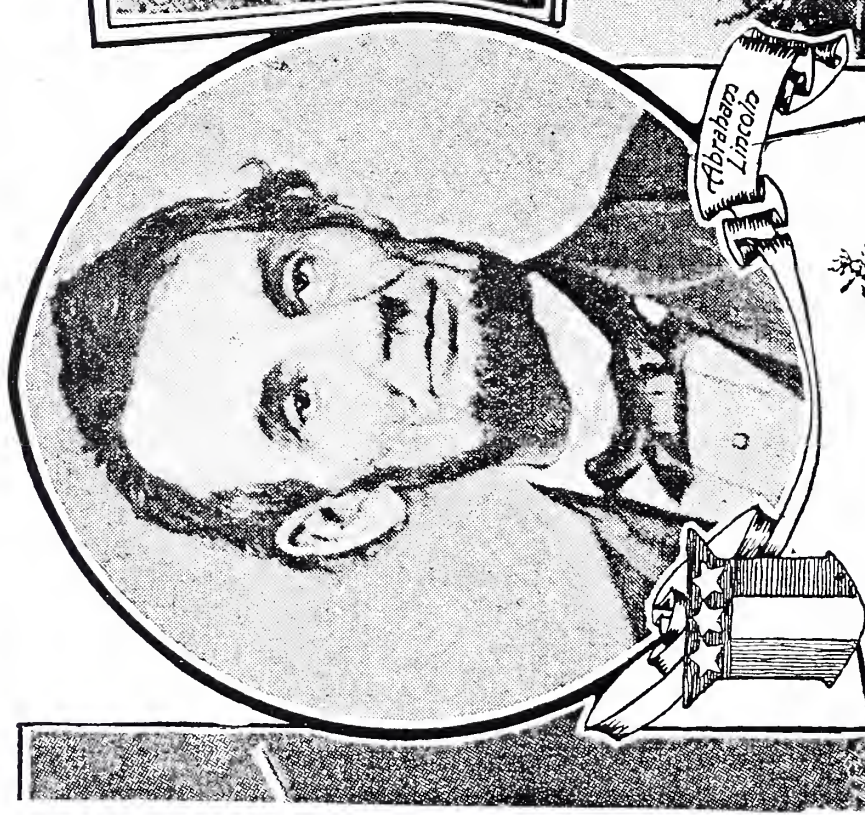
Still standing near Baumstown is the old Friends' meeting house in which Anna Boone, the wife of the Berks county Abraham Lincoln worshiped. Today it is probably the only church of the Friend denomination without a member, the last one dying about four years ago. The structure is precisely as it was in 1737, when it was erected.

Thomas Lincoln, who died forty years ago, was a relative of Abraham Lincoln, the President, and remembered when Daniel Boone returned to Exeter township. He often told the Kentucky pioneer's story of the capture of his daughter by the Indians and her rescue, as well as many other tales Boone related of his own combats with the Indians.

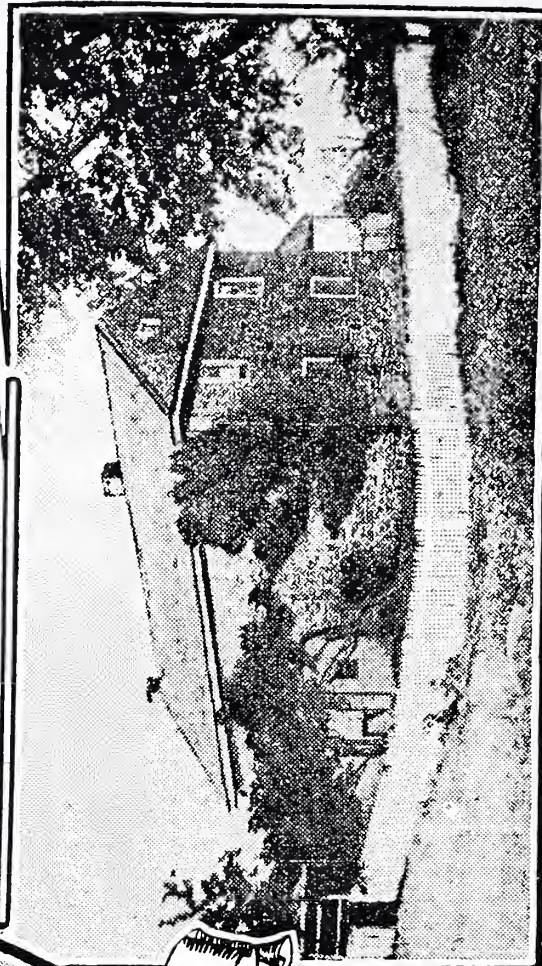
The Boones came to this section and became neighbors of the Lincolns in 1730, and there was at one time five families of that name living in Exeter and Oley townships.

Harrison G. Lincoln, of Reading, has a record of the births and deaths of the Lincolns and Boones, the former from 1736 down to 1868.

Structures Add Touch of Interest to Berks County's Observance of Great Emancipator's Birthday



*Friends Meeting House—
Attended by the
Boones, Hanks,
Lincolns*



Birthplace of Daniel Boone



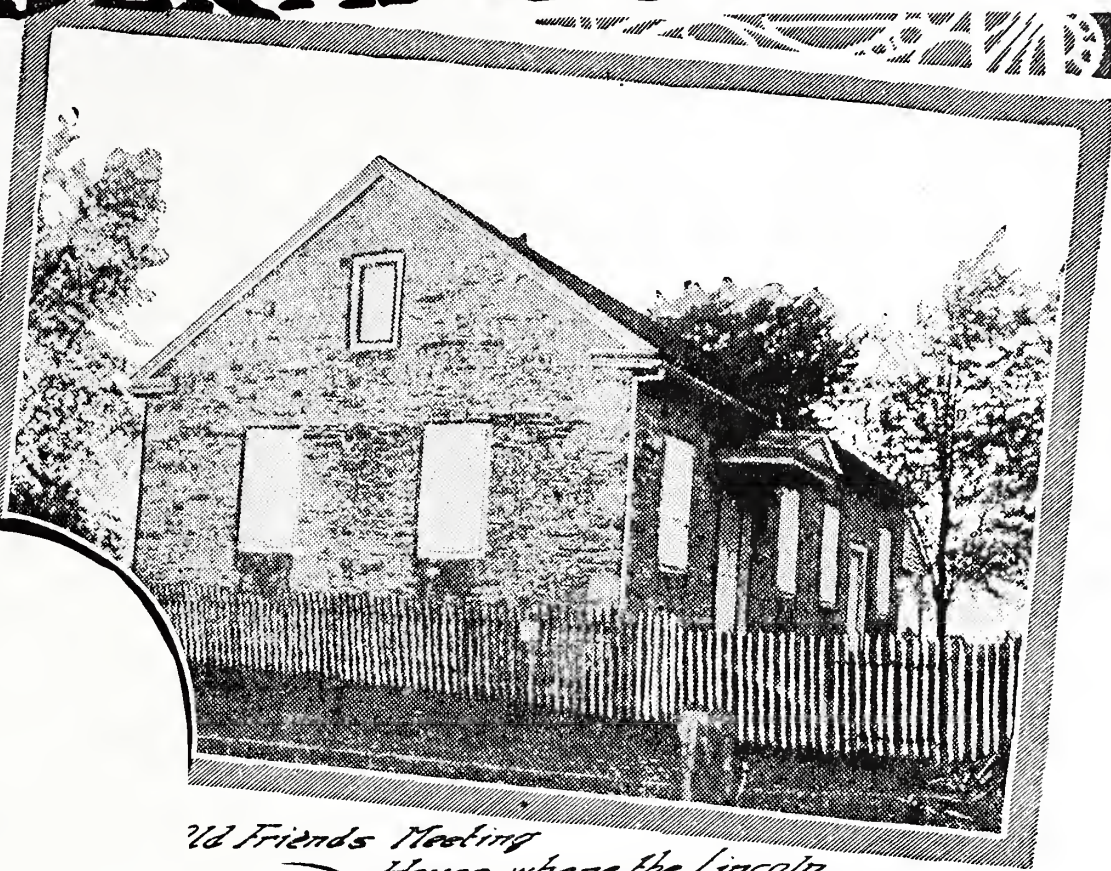
*The Berks County Home
of the Lincolns*

THE NORTH AMERICAN, PHILADELPHIA,

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 1908.

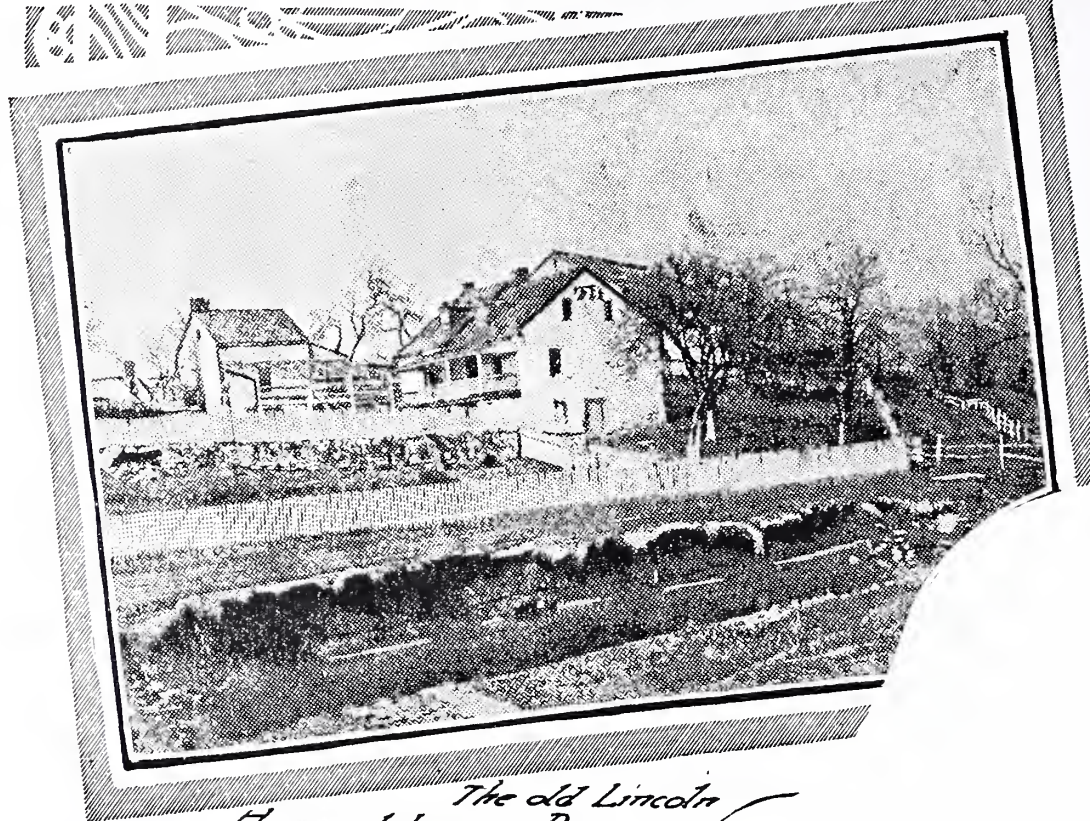
HOUSES THAT ONCE SHELTERED PIONEERS OF MARTYRED PRES-
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S to BERKS COUNTY

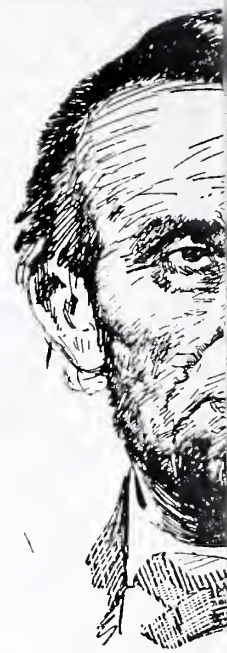


*Old Friends Meeting
House, where the Lincoln,
Boone and Hanks Families Worshipped*

LINCOLN'S DOUBLE TIE



*The old Lincoln
Home at Lorane, Pa*



settled at Churchtown, and his father's name was James. His grandfather was named Abraham. He was a farmer all his life, lived till he was 94 years old, and is buried at Morgantown.

Mordecai, Abraham, Thomas and John were the most common Christian names by which the Lincoln children were baptized in Berks county, and old records are quite numerous bearing such names to deeds and other legal documents.

Legal records, still preserved in the Berks county courthouse, show that the original Lincoln tract of land consisted of 1000 acres, and when it was divided Mordecai Lincoln, Jr., received as his inheritance, the lower southeast portion of the original tract; Thomas, the middle portion, extending to Antietam creek, and Abraham, the upper portion, lying in the vicinity of Exeter, now known as Lorane. The old home is now owned by Richard Lincoln. It embraces that part of the 1000 acres upon which the buildings were first erected in 1733.

OLD HOUSE POPULAR

Tourists like to visit former home of Lincoln's kin

Reading, Pa., Oct. 4 (AP)—Tourists love to visit a low-roofed, thick-walled house eight miles east of Reading—a house that was once the home of ancestors of one of the world's most famous men.

The visitors' feet are wearing away thresholds once crossed and recrossed, it is curious to recall, by Negro slaves whose master dwelt within. The master was Mordecai Lincoln, great-great grandfather of the emancipator. The slaves little dreamed as they went about their task that a descendant of their owner would set their race free.

Mordecai Lincoln came to Pennsylvania from New Jersey where he was in the iron business. Originally the gable end of the house he built near the Philadelphia highway contained a stone with the inscription "M. L. 1773," indicating the probable date of its erection. During his

residence there Mordecai was a justice of the peace.

Smoke still curls peacefully from the squat chimney, as it did nearly 200 years ago; cows still graze in lush pastures nearby. Today the building is owned by John B. Hoffman, a Socialist, who lives there, farms and discusses socialistic doctrines at party meetings there twice a month.

ter record-breaking snow-fall today.

Parkway Mantled in Snow—View toward

Abraham Lincoln an Inspiration to Every American Today



The Old Homestead of Mordecai Lincoln, Great-Great Grand father of Lincoln—It is near Reading, and the Berks County Historical Society has erected a marker along the Reading-Philadelphia turnpike pointing tourists to the road leading into the old homestead.

Dear Dr. I sent you article on this homestead about a year ago
This is near the Benjamin Franklin highway
thought them might be of interest to you

"This Indenture made the Sixteenth Day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand Seven hundred and thirty two BETWEEN Thomas Millerd of Coventry in the county of Chester, Miller and Barbara his wife of the one part and Mordecai Lincoln of Unity in the County of Philadelphia of the other part WITNESSETH That the said Thomas Millerd and Barbara his wife for and in consideration of the sum of ten shillings lawful money to them the sd Thomas Millerd and Barbara his wife in hand paid by the sd Mordecai Lincoln the Receipt whereof they do hereby acknowledge have bargained and by these presents Do bargain and Sell unto the sd Mordecai Lincoln a Certain Tract of land situate lying and being in sd County of Philadelphia Beginning at a Beech Tree by the River Schuylkill and Running by a Line of Marked trees North Twenty degrees east four hundred and twenty perches to a Corner Post then by a line of marked trees Seventy Degrees West four hundred and twenty perches to a Corner Post then South twenty degrees West by a line of marked trees two hundred and ninety perches to a hickory tree By the River Schuylkill then Down the same on several courses to the place of Beginning Containing one thousand Acres together with the messuage and tenements and Plantation thereon together also with all and singular the Buildings improvements ways woods water water courses meadows fields Rights members hereditaments and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto Belonging or in any wise appertaining and the Reversion and Reversions, Remainder and Remainders Rents Issues and profits thereof to Have and to Hold the said Messuage and Tenement Plantation Tract of Land Hereditaments and premises hereby granted Bargained and Sold or mentioned to be Bargained and Sold with the appurtenances unto the said Mordecai Lincoln his executors administrators and assigns from the day of the date hereof for and during and unto the full end and term of one year from thence next ensuing and fully to be completed and ended. In Witness whereof the sd parties to these presents have hereunto interchangeably sett their hands and seals dated the day and year first above written.

Sealed & Delivered
in the Presence of Timothy Millord
Joseph Millord

Thomas Millard
her
Barbara B Millard
mark

Abraham Lincoln, Feb. 12, 1809-April 15, 1865.

Whenever Abraham Lincoln's birthday appears on the calendar, Berks county folks feel the pride of possession. The Lincolns and the Boones were one of Berks' "F. F.'s" in a very real sense. The first families in this region included Swede and English colonists. There is little doubt but that the Lincolns were of English origin, but at various times the Boones divide on the question of their ancestry, some claiming English and others Swedish or other Scandinavian origin. At any rate the forebears of Abraham Lincoln and of Daniel Boone, president and pioneer, respectively, once lived in Berks county.

Down in Exeter township, near what is now known as Lorane station, the old Lincoln homestead still stands, while nearby is the home in which Daniel Boone was born. Berks county seemed to be a sort of stopping, not so much a permanent abiding place, for most of these pioneers. In the slow march of centuries a generation stopped in one section or state, established a home, and then moved on, 20, 40 or 60 years later, to another state further South or further West.

MOVED FROM NEW ENGLAND

From eastern Pennsylvania these pioneers, after erecting a home in Berks and leaving some of the several families in this county, moved to Virginia, and then on to Kentucky and Illinois. According to data collected many years ago the Lincolns took nearly two centuries to move from near Boston, in 1657, to the Middle West, which sent Abraham Lincoln to the White House just two centuries, plus four years, after Mordecai Lincoln was born, in 1657.

PEOPLE OF CONSEQUENCE.

From Massachusetts they went to Jersey, and thence to Chester county. Later they came to Berks, where another Mordecai, Thomas and John maintained the line of succession down to John's son, Abraham, father of Thomas, father of Abraham Lincoln, in succession. The Lincolns and Boones of that early date were people of consequence here. An Abraham Lincoln was a county commissioner and later a legislator and member of the Constitutional convention, while the Boones filled numerous offices within the gift of the citizens of Berks. These people were extensive landowners, but the "call of the wild" lured them to the South and the Great West. In those days the phrase, "call of the wild," had not yet been invented, but the lure of the open was in their blood, and they responded to it. Many left Berks, and in other com-

munities, they left the same strong impress of personality that the family manifested here.

BERKS A PRIMITIVE COLONY.

The Lincolns of Berks have always been strong, sturdy folks, upright in life and carriage, in their dealings with their neighbors and with the community in general. They were the type of people who later produced the man the nation knew and delighted to call "Honest Abe."

Berks was a primitive place, a roughly hewn group of colonies in the wilderness, when John Lincoln, great grandfather of Abraham, lived in this section. Soon after Reading was laid out, which was shortly before 1750, John Lincoln sold his farm holdings and went to Virginia. This was in 1765, as established in the Berks tax lists. In 1782 John's son Abraham went to Kentucky and in two years' time was killed by the Indians. Abraham's third and youngest son was Thomas, father of Abraham, the president.

The Lincolns who remained here assisted to erect a big and prosperous county, with a city of over 100,000 as the county seat. The ones who went South and West helped to establish new communities and to create new states out of the almost boundless West.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN: the Abraham Lincoln who signed the Pennsylvania Constitution of 1790 was not an ancestor of President Lincoln, but his great-grand-uncle. The signer was a son of Mordecai Lincoln, of Berks county, Pennsylvania; another son was John, who removed to Virginia, and was the President's great-grandfather.—(H. K. T.)

John Lincoln

May 1872

Abraham Lincoln a witness in the marriage
and of the y. of the State of Illinois at
Salem, Kentucky, near the Court

1734. Murderer Lincoln, name
appears on East of ³⁷ Anacle, two Texas papers
Born just west on 50 acres

Eight miles out of Rockwell is
the old Lincoln House

Spencer - Lincoln 1/2 mile apart

1729 - Mordecai Benjamin ...
1730 ... in ...
... ..

appearing list of ... 1723, ~~1724~~ 1722
1724, 1725.

Had two slaves

Mordecai Benjamin

born in 1726 - died 1735 age 53

Mordecai Benjamin born in ... 1736

State ... 1789-90

State ... 1782

Squire ...

the
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Abraham ...

the York town campaign.
... .. a visit
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Joseph ... on ... list of ...

between 1758 and 1763.

Squire ...

... ..
... ..
three years later

166

William Sumner Esch
(Sumner Esch Co Penn.)
Daughter Mary Kroff
Hill Camp on Spring & main

442
8' 995.47

William Sumner Esch
proposed

Set #1 in plain of Esch
End out by main Sumner
Esch Mary D.
" Ann B. (Hansons)

Set 2
marked 1/2 whist
will with Esch June 19 1912

Rush House in Penn.
~~William~~ Joseph Esch names Esch Esch

See "Jungam Rush. C. monument 1845. 1815
by Biddle

Letter to John Adams Page 2

William Rush first Amer Sculptor

Harrisburg Penn
Dauphin Co Hist Society

Site - Lincoln to Cannon 11-6-63

Badge - Northern Central Railroad
Circular - Rosette with the type
of Lincoln.

Brass plate 6x10 Early Tallyer Estate
Harrisburg April 1865
assassination.

Memory Badge - 25 miles long
Early type of Lincoln

Picture - Rev Charles D. Hays
Parade S. Penn. Union
April 23 1865

Harrisburg Penn

This tablet marks the site
of the
Jones House

Abraham Lincoln
stopped (overnight) at this spot
Feb 22 1861
on the way to his first inauguration

Donated by the
Dauphin County Hist Soc
January 1940

MURDERER LINDSEY JEFF

Ben 1751

MURDECAI AND MARY LITPOLN DEED - Penn.

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